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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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CONTENTS

26 February 1990

CENTRAL AFRICA

Burundi

President Will Not Attend Meeting With De Klerk [Bujumbura Radio] 1

Cameroon

Biya Appoints New Supreme Court President [AFP] 1

Congo

Namibia's Nujoma Departs After 'Special Visit' [PANA] 1

Gabon

Strikes Banned, Bongo To Address Nation 23 Feb [Libreville Africa No 1] 1
 'Calm' Returns to Libreville [AFP] 2
 Boycott of Classes Continues [Libreville Africa No 1] 2
 Bongo Dissolves Ruling Party [AFP] 2
 New Party Created [AFP] 2
 Bongo Ready To Close Schools [AFP] 3
 Many Remain on Strike [AFP] 3
 Strikers Agree To Negotiate [AFP] 4

EAST AFRICA

Ethiopia

PRC 'Concern' on Fighting in Eritrea Cited [Addis Ababa International] 5

Kenya

Crowds in Nyanza Gather for Ouko Funeral 23 Feb [Nairobi Radio] 5
 Nairobi Service 'Orderly,' 'Peaceful' [Nairobi Radio] 5
 Several Said Injured in Clashes [AFP] 6
 Nairobi 'Calm,' Most Shops Closed [KNA] 6
 Moi Speaks at Ouko's Koru Burial [Nairobi Radio] 7
 One Reported Killed in Protests [AFP] 7
 'Massive Show of Force' at Burial [AFP] 8

Tanzania

Julius Nyerere Comments on One-Party System [Dar es Salaam Radio] 8

Uganda

NRA Forces Civilians Into Camp in Kumi District [AFP] 9

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reception Committee Releases Mandela's Itinerary [SAPA] 10
 Nelson Mandela To Address Durban Rally 25 Feb 10
 Crowds Gather at Stadium [SAPA] 10

Makes 'Powerful Call' for Natal Peace [Umtata Radio]	10
Addresses Bloemfontein Rally [Johannesburg Radio]	11
Summons Police To 'Abandon Apartheid' [SAPA]	11
Urges Open Amenities to 'All Races' [SAPA]	11
Urges Students Back to School [SAPA]	12
Sisulu Acknowledges Natal Unrest 'Great Obstacle' [Umtata Radio]	12
Calls for Peace at Rally [SAPA]	12
Mandela Discusses Need To End Natal Violence [BBC]	12
Views UK Sanctions Position [Umtata Radio]	13
De Klerk Calls for End to 'Outmoded Ideologies' [Johannesburg Radio]	13
De Klerk 'Expected' To Fire Defense Minister [SUNDAY STAR 25 Feb]	13
Right Wing Groups Request Interview With De Klerk [THE CITIZEN 23 Feb]	14

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Angola

Cuban Troop Withdrawal Resumes 25 Feb [Johannesburg Radio]	15
Savimbi Reportedly Accepts National Army Concept [Johannesburg Radio]	15
FAPLA Announces Air Raid on UNITA Base [Lisbon Radio]	15
Communique Issued 24 Feb [Luanda Radio]	15
FAPLA Denounces Airspace Violation From Zaire [Maputo Radio]	15
MPLA Party Central Committee Session Begins [Luanda Radio]	16
Assembly Secretariat Postpones Session to 2 Mar [ANGOP]	16

Lesotho

Judge Swears in New Ministers, Council Members [Maseru Radio]	16
Lekhanya Meets Press; Denies King Under Arrest [Johannesburg Radio]	16
Democratic Rule Planned for 1992 [SAPA]	17
Government Changes Reported [Maseru Radio]	17
Commentary Criticizes King's Message to Nation [Maseru Radio]	18

Malawi

President Banda Reshuffles Cabinet 23 Feb [Blantyre Radio]	18
--	----

Mozambique

Mocumbi: Renamo Understands Peace Conditions [Maputo Radio]	18
---	----

Swaziland

King Sends Message to South African President [Mbabane Radio]	18
Nelson Mandela Sends Message to King Mswati III [THE SWAZI NEWS 24 Feb]	19

WEST AFRICA

Benin

Kerekou Warns Against 'Civilian Coup' Inclinations [AFP]	20
National Conference Adopts Declaration [PANA]	20
New Bi-Monthly Magazine L'OPINION Launched [Cotonou Radio]	21

The Gambia

Jawara, Nigeria's Babangida Issue Joint Communique [PANA]	21
---	----

Ivory Coast

Students Demonstrate at Abidjan Cathedral 23 Feb [AFP]	22
--	----

Students Sequestered in Cathedral [BBC]	22
Riot Police Clash With Students [AFP]	22
Newspaper Correspondent Arrested [AFP]	23
Students Leave Cathedral [AFP]	23
100 Students Arrested [AFP]	23
Schools, Lecturers Support Students [AFP]	24
Union Demands Students' Release [AFP]	24
Protestors Urge Colleagues' Release [BBC]	24
'Vandalism,' 'Looting' Reported [AFP]	24
Cardinal Reportedly 'Very Angry' [AFP]	25
Reaction to Synares Tract Reported [Abidjan TV]	25
Authorities Release 100 Students [BBC]	26
President Orders Students' Release [Abidjan Radio]	26
Police Teargas Students; 2 Arrested [AFP]	26
Houphouet-Boigny To Meet Employers, Unions 25 Feb [Abidjan Radio]	27
Meeting Postponed Until 27 Feb [Abidjan Radio]	27
FPI Paper Banned, Militants Released [AFP]	27

Liberia

Government Reacts to Student Protests in Abidjan [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	27
Brutality Against Students Reported [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	28
Senate President Pro Tempore Dies in Hospital [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	28

Mali

New Bi-Monthly Newspaper L'AUORE Issued [AFP]	28
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Sierra Leone

ECOWAS Secretary General Threatens To Resign [BBC]	28
Government Expresses Joy Over Mandela Release [Freetown Radio]	28

Burundi

President Will Not Attend Meeting With De Klerk

EA2202170290 Bujumbura Domestic Service
in Swahili 1645 GMT 21 Feb 90

[Text] Contrary to the news spread by international media, Major Pierre Buyoya, the president of the Republic, will not attend the summit meeting in Goma Town, Zaire, which will bring together some of Africa's heads of state and will be held over the next weekend.

President Buyoya will, however, attend the 13th summit of the CEPGL [Economic Community of the Countries of the Great Lakes].

The obvious truth is that the president of the Republic of Burundi will not attend any meeting which will also be attended by the South African Boer regime's leader.

Cameroon

Biya Appoints New Supreme Court President

AB2202180390 Paris AFP in French 1220 GMT
22 Feb 90

[Text] Yaounde, 22 Feb (AFP)—On 21 February, Alexis Dipanda Mouelle was nominated by presidential decree as president of Cameroon's Supreme Court, it was learned today from official sources in Yaounde. Dipanda Mouelle, a senior magistrate, was a general prosecutor at the Supreme Court. Besides ensuring respect for the Constitution, this court is charged with certifying a vacancy of power. It also oversees elections.

Congo

Namibia's Nujoma Departs After 'Special Visit'

AB2402101790 Dakar PANA in French 1237 GMT
24 Feb 90

[Text] Brazzaville, 24 Feb (ACI/PANA)—The president-elect of Namibia, Mr. Sam Nujoma, left Brazzaville this morning after a 24-hour "special visit" to Congo during which he held talks with the Congolese head of state, Mr. Denis Sassou-Nguesso.

On his arrival yesterday in the Congolese capital, Mr. Nujoma said he had come to Congo to express the gratitude of the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] and that of the Namibian people for the various forms of assistance given by Congo to his movement throughout the 30 years of struggle against South African occupation. The Namibian president-elect also pointed out on that occasion that after independence, the first task will be to "democratize Namibia after more than a century of apartheid and German and South African colonialism. [no closing quotation marks as received]

He added that Namibia will also concentrate on developing its agriculture, establish an accelerated education and health program and opt for a nonaligned policy while at the same time working for peace and security, South-South cooperation, and African unity.

Apart from its diplomatic, political, and material support, Congo also contributed to the training of young Namibians. A high school was created at Loudima in the southern part of the country during the period of SWAPO's liberation struggle. Brazzaville also served as the venue for the negotiations which led to the signing of the New York Accord on the independence of Namibia and peace in Angola.

Gabon

Strikes Banned, Bongo To Address Nation 23 Feb

AB2302135090 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
0730 GMT 23 Feb 90

[Text] In Gabon, President Bongo and the government are striving to satisfy the demands of the people who have demonstrated for several days now. El Hadj Omar Bongo will address the nation today. Yesterday, at the meeting of the council of ministers it was decided that a joint meeting of the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG] Central Committee and the National Assembly will be held on 27 February to review a number of provisions of the Constitution. A referendum will also be held in the weeks ahead, and it will be followed by an extraordinary PDG congress, the date of which will be fixed later. All these political events will be crowned by legislative elections. The 12 March 1990 ceremonies, marking the PDG anniversary, have been cancelled to highlight those of the national day anniversary on 17 August.

Here are other measures taken by the government and announced here by Zacharie Myboto, minister of state for information, posts, and telecommunications:

[Begin Myboto recording] The Council of Ministers hereby calls on all workers from the public, parastatal, or private sectors, who have been on strike over the past few days, to return to work. In this regard, ministers have been directed to check absentees and take appropriate sanctions in accordance with the law.

As part of its mission to guarantee the security of people and property, the council, in view of the present situation, has made the following decisions: First, as of today, all gatherings of five or more people are banned from 2000 to 0600; all demonstrations likely to disturb peace, order, and work have also been banned. The minister of national defense and public security has received the necessary orders for the strict implementation of these measures.

Recalling some points in his recent message to the nation, the head of state confirmed to the council his willingness to make immediate changes at the level of the Republic's institutions. [end recording]

'Calm' Returns to Libreville*AB2302183890 Paris AFP in French 1151 GMT
23 Feb 90*

[Text] Libreville, 23 Feb (AFP)—The streets of Libreville regained their calm after several days of demonstrations and tension, following the Gabonese Government's decision Thursday [22 February] night to ban any demonstration "likely to disturb public peace and work," it was noted on the spot.

Yesterday morning, demonstrators walked through all the streets of the city, inciting businesses to close down and allow their employees to join them. Personnel of the public, parapublic, and private sectors were asking notably for salary increases.

The extraordinary cabinet meeting had also banned any gathering of more than 5 persons from 2000 to 0600 local time.

Toward the station and the working class districts, Thursday's rallying points, the debris from windshields and scattered pieces of wood, signified clashes: Passing barricades put up by demonstrators sometimes led to extortion and incidents occurred until the police intervened, it was learned this morning.

Some primary and high schools were getting ready to close this afternoon for lack of pupils. In fact many parents did not send their children to school, following yesterday's incidents. The head of state, Mr. Omar Bongo, is expected to receive representatives of parents this afternoon.

Boycott of Classes Continues*AB2302152390 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1230 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] In Gabon, classes did not resume this morning in the various secondary schools of the capital, Libreville, where workers from the private sector this morning held demonstrations in the prime minister's office. The head of the Gabonese Government, Leon Mebiame, this morning received the secretary general of the Gabonese Trade Union Confederation, Mr. Alini.

Regarding the Presidency of the Republic, the head of state, Omar Bongo, will this afternoon receive the representatives of the Association of Students' Parents. The minister of civil service, Richard Nguema-Bekale, also continues today his contacts with the various state bodies.

Bongo Dissolves Ruling Party*AB2302191990 Paris AFP in English 1910
23 Feb 90*

[Text] Libreville, Feb 23 (AFP)—Gabonese President Omar Bongo Friday announced the dissolution of the single, ruling Democratic Party (PDG) and the creation of a new Social-Democrat Rally (RSDG).

The new party would be tasked with bringing together "all those who sincerely want to continue working for the building of our country in unity and concord while undertaking the important democratic reforms legitimately awaited by our people," he said.

Mr. Bongo was speaking on national television, a day after the government banned strikes and demonstrations to halt a wave of public protest.

New Party Created*AB2302215490 Paris AFP in French 2003 GMT
23 Feb 90*

[Text] Libreville, 23 Feb (AFP)—This evening Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo announced in a televised message the dissolution of the Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG, sole party) and the creation of another party, the Gabonese Social Democratic Rally. This party's "duty will be to rally all those who sincerely wish to continue the construction of our country in unity and concord, while implementing the important democratic reforms being legitimately expected by our people," President Bongo added.

The head of state said that while creating this new party he took into account the proposals in the report that the Special Commission on Democracy submitted to him today. This commission was set up in January at the end of the PDG Central Committee's proceedings. He said that an extraordinary congress of the PDG would be convened "soon" to rubber-stamp the dissolution of this party. A national conference for the writing of the new movement's statutes and the revision of the constitution will be convened "on the basis of political tendencies that will have shown their desire to take part with us in the birth of this movement," he added.

The Gabonese head of state also felt that the creation of the PDG on 12 March 1968 had marked an "important step" in the political life of Gabon and that it "had brilliantly" fulfilled the missions that had been assigned to it. "Presently the majority of our people are made up of young generations receptive to the ideas of change and to whom we must offer new prospects," President Bongo continued.

This is the reason for the creation of the Gabonese Social Democratic Rally which, "in the face of current changes," will be responsible for "reinforcing our cohesion, associating all Gabonese in the elaboration of political measures concerning their lives and future." The Gabonese head of state said that this new party should be that of "all democrats.... All shades of opinion in our country are welcome."

President Bongo appealed to his "friends of yesterday and today" to continue "to trust him by confirming their support for this rally.... As for my friends of tomorrow," he added, "I ask them to be determined and outspoken."

The announcement of the PDG's dissolution and the creation of a new one comes as Gabon has been experiencing high social tension for several weeks, observers noted in Libreville. Demonstrations by workers from the public, parastatal, and private sectors have increased these past days in the Gabonese capital.

Bongo Ready To Close Schools

AB2402105190 Paris AFP in French 0917 GMT
24 Feb 90

[Text] At a meeting yesterday with Libreville parent-teachers associations, Gabonese Head of State Omar Bongo said he was ready to close schools next Monday or Tuesday and suspend teachers' salaries if they continue their strike.

President Bongo indicated that the decision was necessary after he had exhausted all avenues for a negotiated settlement of the teachers' grievances.

"We have given the essentials and we are only asking the Gabonese people to be patient until the end of 1990, a period during which we will revive the national economy," Mr. Bongo went on, explaining that the deadline was necessary because of the state's commitments toward the World Bank and IMF.

Turning to those who, according to him, have been fanning trouble and manipulating the youths, President Bongo stated that he would not fall into the trap because he "did not want to turn into a dictator or a killer of children, or turn the Gabonese state into a police state."

At the same meeting, Education Minister Guy Nzouba-Ndama stated that solutions had been designed for the pedagogical and statutory problems brought up by teachers, and he announced plans to build 30 primary schools, a senior high school and a junior high school with a capacity of 2,000 students each, a technical school for industrial subjects and another for commercial subjects in Libreville. He said negotiations for funding are already under way with the African Development Bank.

The minister, however, indicated that negotiations on other demands by teachers stumbled over salary increases, explaining that the deadlock stemmed from the fact that the problem of increases is "a general question that cannot be solved piecemeal."

After the meeting, the delegates of the parents associations asked the head of state to allow them "time for consultations" and to officially notify the teachers of his decision to close down schools and suspend salaries before implementing the measures.

"I am willing to wait until you tell me your decision. I will therefore be at your disposal before taking any action," President Bongo concluded.

Many Remain on Strike

AB2402134890 Paris AFP in English 1333 GMT
24 Feb 90

[Text] Libreville, Feb 24 (AFP)—Strikes kept primary schools and telephone exchanges closed here Saturday after Gabonese President Omar Bongo used both the carrot and the stick to try to deal with social unrest.

Mr Bongo went on national television late Friday to promise the dissolution of the single ruling party and the creation of a new national "rally" more responsive to people's needs. But also threatened to suspend teachers' salaries.

It was difficult to know how many economic sectors were still affected by strikes as the weekend began, but telephones were not working in the centre of the capital after demonstrations Friday and primary school teachers did not go to work.

A reliable source said telephone exchanges had been put out of action by strikers.

But secondary schools were open Saturday. So was the Mbolo supermarket, one of the biggest in west central Africa, which had been forced to close its doors on Friday.

In his television address, Mr Bongo said the Democratic Party (PDG), founded in March 1968 months after he took office, would be wound up although it had done its job well.

A new Social Democrat Rally (RSDG) would be formed by those who "sincerely want" to work together on behalf of the mostly young population, "who are very receptive to the idea of change and to whom we must offer new prospects," he explained.

However, he also met parents of children at Libreville schools on Friday and told them he was ready to close schools early next week. As a last resort, and suspend teachers' pay unless they went back to work.

At that meeting, Education Minister Guy Nzouba-Ndama said steps were being taken to meet the teachers' demands and cited plans to build a secondary school and higher education college, technical colleges and 30 primary schools.

Saturday's continued strikes defied an official ban imposed Thursday on all meetings of more than five people from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. and on "any demonstration of a nature to disturb public order and work".

Gabon, a former French colony straddling the equator, has been shaken by unrest as riots and strikes followed student protests last month over poor teaching and living conditions.

On Wednesday, it was announced that Mr Bongo had decided on a series of concessions to workers, including the end to a solidarity tax and automatic salary reductions for housing.

But delegates representing workers in several economic sectors went to see prime minister Leon Mebiame on Friday with a list of further demands, adding that they had "no longer had confidence" in official trade union channels.

They wanted better access to housing, higher minimum wage and pensions, cheaper water and power, an overhaul of labour contracts and a 'Gabonization' policy based on a census of foreign workers in companies.

Mr Bongo, promising "more democracy, freedom and social justice", also warned on Friday that the government had ceded on "the essential" and called on people to be "patient" until the end of the year, saying economic recovery was hinged on agreement with the key international lending institutions.

Strikers Agree To Negotiate

AB2502151990 Paris AFP in French 1200 GMT
24 Feb 90

[Text] Libreville, 24 Feb (AFP)—A group of striking workers, representing various sectors of the Gabonese economy, yesterday presented to Prime Minister Leon

Mebiame a list of demands including the creation of a "free trade union," it was learned from official sources today.

The strikers have refused to be represented by the Gabonese Trade Union Confederation (COSYGA) executive bureau, asserting that they "no longer had confidence in it" and that they would prefer solving their problems themselves with the prime minister.

The document of demands presented to the head of government also called for the revision of the collective agreements, the reinforcement of the activities of work inspectors at workplaces, and the adoption of a policy of "effective Gabonization" through the establish of a commission to count the number of foreigners in the society.

The document also suggests an increase in the family allocations, beginning-of-school-year allowances, and giving them the priority to get access to low-cost housing.

An important chapter was devoted to salary demands and the fall in the purchasing power of workers due to the increase in the prices of essential commodities. To this effect, the strikers have demanded an increase in the minimum daily wage, a reduction in water and electricity rates, and a rise in the rate of old-age allocations.

Finally, the workers demanded the redeployment to other areas of activity of all those who were dismissed for economic reasons and who are currently unemployed.

The two sides agreed to hold discussions based on these demands and the workers agreed to immediately appoint delegates from all sectors of activity to negotiate with the government.

Ethiopia

PRC 'Concern' on Fighting in Eritrea Cited

EA2402212490 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 24 Feb 90

[Text] The Government of the PRC has expressed concern over the renewed fighting in Eritrea, northern Ethiopia, following the recently launched offensive by the so-called EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] secessionist group. The Chinese Government said in an official statement that the latest fighting hampers the efforts taken by the Ethiopian Government towards a peaceful settlement of the problems.

The statement said peace negotiations are essential not only to free the people of Eritrea Autonomous Region from the scourge of war but also meets the more immediate need for guaranteeing the unhindered flow of international disaster relief aid to people in the area threatened with mass starvation. If, the Chinese Government said, the people resolve the problem, it would lead to the maintaining of Ethiopia's unity and territorial integrity. It expressed appreciation to the Ethiopian Government position and efforts in seeking a peaceful settlement to the problems in Eritrea.

Kenya

Crowds in Nyanza Gather for Ouko Funeral 23 Feb

EA2302133090 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Feb 90

[Text] As the people of Nyanza [western Kenya] await the arrival of the body of the late minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr. Robert John Ouko, business in Kisumu Town has come to a standstill since early this morning.

All shops and schools remained closed and only public offices with skeleton staff are open. The streets are also deserted as wananchi [citizens] from all corners of Nyanza and Western Provinces converge at Moi Stadium.

At Dr. Ouko's Nyahera home, hundreds of mourners continue to stream in, while those already there are singing Christian songs to soothe the bereaved relatives and friends.

Reports from Koru [location of Ouko's home] say that the entire farming community in the sugar belt continues to converge at the late minister's home awaiting the arrival of the body, which is expected to arrive this evening.

At Moi Stadium, massive crowds have gathered, but have remained calm and orderly. Security is tight to take care of any disturbances that might arise. The Nyanza provincial commissioner, Mr. Julius Kobia, speaking to

the KENYA NEWS AGENCY, confirmed that everything was in place and asked wananchi to remain calm.

Nairobi Service 'Orderly,' 'Peaceful'

EA2302142090 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Feb 90

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi was today among thousands of mourners who attended a funeral service for the late minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr. Robert Ouko, at the Nairobi Pentecostal Church, Valley Road. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Denis White. Moving eulogies were delivered by the vice president and minister for finance, Prof. George Saitoti, and Prof. Francis Ojany of the University of Nairobi. Two of the late ministers' children, Kenneth and Susan Ouko, read verses from the Bible.

After the service, President Moi viewed the remains of his late minister and bowed to signify his respect. After viewing the body, President Moi, who looked grieved, shook hands with the widow and children of the late minister and whispered to them words of consolation.

The late Dr. Ouko's casket arrived at the church compound shortly after 1000 accompanied by close relatives and escorted by police outriders. Pastor Jesse Kamau of the Loresho PCEA [Presbyterian Church of East Africa] said prayers for the bereaved family and relatives.

Among those present were cabinet ministers, assistant ministers, MP's, and members of the diplomatic corps as well as people from all walks of life.

Others were the head of the public service and secretary to the cabinet, Mr Joseph arap Leting, the CGS [chief of General Staff], General Mahmud Mohammed, the permanent secretary in the office of the president in charge of provincial administration and internal security, Mr. Ezekiah Oyugi and the Nairobi provincial commissioner, Mr. Fred Waiganjo, among other senior government officials.

During the whole solemn service, the thousands of people who packed the church and its precincts remained peaceful, calm and orderly.

During the service the vice president and minister for finance Professor George Saitoti described the late minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr. Robert John Ouko, as a steadfast Nyayo [footsteps—Moi's governing philosophy which states that the policies of former President Jomo Kenyatta will be followed] man whose loyalty to the government, the party and President Daniel arap Moi was beyond reproach.

Professor Saitoti, who was reading an eulogy during the memorial service for the late Dr. Ouko said the year 1990 was indeed a sad year in the history of this nation, for the country has lost one of the most loyal and committed servants of Kenya, a man who cannot be easily replaced.

The vice president said: This is indeed one of the most painful and sorrowful moments for me, to be paying tribute to one of the most illustrious sons of Kenya, Dr. Robert John Ouko, a man who took the burdens of this youthful nation as a true patriot, right from independence.

He said that the late Dr. Ouko was a man of humility and integrity, who could be trusted and loved. Professor Saitoti said the late minister was one of the major architects of Kenya's political philosophy of peace, love and unity who contributed immensely to the enunciation of the current KANU [Kenyan African National Union] manifesto.

He said Dr. Ouko's commitment to serve the people of Kenya, without fear or favor, will forever be inscribed in the annals of Kenya's history, adding that as one of the first Kenyans to receive extensive diplomatic training, the late Dr. Ouko was instrumental in laying the foundation of the country's future foreign policy.

Several Said Injured in Clashes

AB2302125090 Paris AFP in English 1327 GMT
23 Feb 90

[Text] Nairobi, Feb 23 (AFP)—Several people were injured as angry students fought street battles with police and troops here Friday after a state funeral service in memory of murdered Foreign Minister Robert Ouko.

President Daniel arap Moi, Vice-President George Saitoti and members of the diplomatic corps had earlier attended the service and paid their respects to Mr. Ouko.

Several thousand students had massed outside the church chanting "We want Bob" (Mr. Ouko), demanding to be able to see Mr. Ouko's body and to be told the truth about how he died.

Mounted police and troops joined police in several parts of the city as hundreds of demonstrators threw stones and smashed car windcreens.

Several people suffered broken limbs in the fighting. Among those hurt was Jim Malone, a reporter for the U.S. Voice of America radio station. A cameraman for the Visnews TV Company, Mohammed Shaaffi, was beaten by paramilitary forces of the General Service Units (GSU).

The authorities said that Mr. Ouko's partly-burned corpse was found near his home at Koru in western Kenya a week ago. They later said that he had been shot through the head, and called in two British detectives to help inquire into the killing.

Some of Friday's demonstrators accused the government of being behind the murder.

The death has also revived fears of ethnic violence. Mr. Ouko was a leading member of the Luo tribe, Kenya's second biggest after the Kikuyus. President Moi is a member of the smaller Kalenjin tribe.

On Thursday 12 Luo leaders issued an appeal for calm, and warned the protesting students about the risk of infiltration by extremists.

Friday's protest was the fifth by students here since Sunday. Demonstrations have also been held in two other university towns and in Dr. Ouko's parliamentary constituency of Kisumu in the west.

Mr. Ouko's body was due to be flown back Saturday for burial at his western Kenya farm at Koru, 350 kilometres (210 miles) from Nairobi.

In Kisumu, two people were seriously injured in police firing Friday as demonstrations erupted in the western city when the body of the murdered minister was being brought home. A woman was also seriously injured when she was clubbed by police as rioters and police clashed in the eastern slum suburbs of Kisumu, just outside the sports stadium where the minister's body was displayed.

Elsewhere in the town, rioters set fire to vehicles and looted and stoned shops.

The body of Mr. Ouko arrived by helicopter at the sports stadium where thousands of mourning members of his Luo tribe lined up to see the body. Outside the stadium, angry rioters said that President Daniel arap Moi was behind the killing.

"Moi is the killer. He has killed Ouko. He killed him because he was too clever," the demonstrators said.

They recalled the murder of leading Luo Tom Mboya in 1969, and many warned President Moi against arriving Saturday morning for the burial in Koru, 80 kilometres (50 miles) from here.

Demonstrators gathered around a protestor wounded by the police, Isaac Odonga, who was badly hurt in the stomach. "They just singled him out and then shot him," one said, amid appeals for somebody to bring a car to take him to hospital.

Nairobi 'Calm;' Most Shops Closed

EA2401114280 Nairobi KNA in English 1005 GMT
24 Feb 90

[Text] Nairobi, 24 Feb—(KNA) The situation in the City of Nairobi today remained calm although most of the business premises remained closed to the public.

A survey by the KENYA NEWS AGENCY around the city and its environs revealed that most of the shops had closed following yesterday's scare riots upon which several shops and vehicles were damaged in the process. [sentence as received]

The stampede, which was first reported from the Pentecostal Church, Valley Road, followed a funeral service for the late minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr Robert Ouko, at the church. In the process of the riots a lot of innocent Wananchi [citizens] in their daily activities were injured.

Meanwhile, no incidents have been reported from other parts of the country which were said to be quiet.

Moi Speaks at Ouko's Koru Burial

*EA2402165390 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1050 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] H.E. President Daniel arap Moi today assured Kenyans that no stone shall be left unturned in a bid to establish the cause of death of the late minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Dr. Robert Ouko. The president said that the government will not hide anything from the public about the death of Dr. Ouko, adding that that was the reason why the government had engaged the services of international investigators who are working in conjunction with the local security team. President Moi was addressing the nation during the burial of the late Dr. Ouko at his Koru home in Kisumu District.

The president said that the death of Dr. Ouko was still a mystery, and advised that any person who may have any information that can help in the investigations should inform the police for thorough (?follow-up). He said that was the only way to discourage rumors, speculations, and suspicion regarding the death of the late Dr. Robert Ouko.

President Moi described the late Dr. Ouko as a faithful and loyal Kenyan who loved his country. He said he first met Dr. Ouko during his student days in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in (?1961), adding that Dr. Ouko had served this country with love and commitment.

The president said that the late Dr. Ouko represented Kenya well abroad and interpreted effectively the president's policies based on the Nyayo [footsteps—Moi's governing philosophy which states that the policies of former President Jomo Kenyatta will be followed] philosophy at all international fora. He said that (?with the death) of Dr. Ouko, Kenya had lost one of its illustrious sons and heroes, urging Kenyans to pray to God to protect his family and also to rest his soul in eternal peace.

Addressing the mourners, the widow, Mrs. Christabel Ouko, with tears appealed to all peace-loving Kenyans to be peaceful at this time of mourning and to give her late husband a calm and orderly send off as he would have wished.

She expressed the gratitude of the entire family of the late Dr. Ouko to President Moi for his assistance and consolation after the death of her husband. She said the late husband believed genuinely that Kenya would not be what it was today without the wise and dynamic leadership of President Moi.

The funeral service was conducted by an assistant bishop of the African Inland Church, Reverend (John Odaa), while the sermon was delivered by the head of the church, Bishop Ezechiel Birech.

Present at the late minister's funeral was the vice president and minister for finance, Prof. George Saitoti; cabinet ministers; assistant ministers; MP's; the head of the public service and secretary to the cabinet, Mr. Joseph arap Leting; a permanent secretary in the office of the president, Mr. Hezekiah Oyugi; the chief of staff, General Mahmoud Mohammed; diplomats; other senior government officials; and thousands of wananchi [citizens].

One Reported Killed in Protests

*AB2402123490 Paris AFP in English 1149 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Text] Nairobi, Feb 24 (AFP)—One person reportedly died and several dozen were injured during violent protests Friday as demonstrators demanded an explanation of the murder of Kenyan foreign minister Robert Ouko.

There were protests in the four largest cities and one man was killed in Mr. Ouko's native western Kenya, where he is to be buried Saturday, press reports said.

Police and paramilitary forces cracked down hard on demonstrators in Nairobi and other towns, and looting and burning was widespread.

The body of Mr. Ouko, which was reportedly found on February 16 near his home at Koru, was flown by helicopter Friday to his parliamentary seat in the city of Kisumu after a state funeral service here that led to riots and anti-government protests.

Nairobi was calm early Saturday, but many windows were smashed in the centre of the capital, around big hotels such as the Hilton, the International and the New Stanley.

The capital had seen increasingly anti-government protest all week, with unconfirmed reports of death and serious injury at the hands of the security forces.

In Kisumu, chief of Mr. Ouko's Luo tribe, police seriously injured at least two people on Friday when they opened fire on protestors as the minister's remains arrived, while several others were clubbed by riot police in the eastern slum district of town, an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reporter said.

Saturday's papers also reported demonstrations at Nakuru, north of Nairobi, and in the eastern port city of Mombasa, where police dispersed protesting students from the Polytechnic.

The authorities have issued no toll of the violence.

Mr. Ouko, 58, was a prominent member of the Luo tribe, Kenya's second ethnic group after the Kikuyus. President Daniel arap Moi, who has ordered any enquiry into his death, comes from the minority Kalenjin tribe.

The foreign minister was reported missing by his family a day before the authorities announced the finding of his body, but had apparently already not been seen for three days.

A white car picked him up from his home early on the Tuesday, according to independent sources quoted by one newspaper. There were conflicting reports as to who had found Mr. Ouko's body.

The government late Monday said that preliminary findings showed he had been killed with a single bullet to the head, and announced that it had called in two Scotland Yard detectives and a British pathologist to help.

In Kisumu, as in Nairobi, anti-government feeling ran high Friday. "Moi is the killer. He has killed Ouko. He killed him because he was too clever," some demonstrators said.

Many warned Mr. Moi against coming for the minister's funeral Saturday in Koru, 80 kilometres (50 miles) from Kisumu.

Mr. Ouko is the third high-profile Kenyan politician to spark widespread anger after dying at the hands of assassins since 1969.

'Massive Show of Force' at Burial

*AB2402151690 Paris AFP in English 1324 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[By Veronica Forwood]

[Text] Koru, Kenya, Feb 24 (AFP)—A massive show of force by police and security forces on Saturday quelled demonstrators at the burial in Koru, western Kenya, of murdered Foreign Minister Robert Ouko.

Some 200 members of the paramilitary General Service Unit (GSU) stood facing the mainly student demonstrators guns at the ready. Others backed up with clubs and riot shields.

The hundreds of protestors who had chanted "We want justice" and "Why kill Ouko" before the arrival by military helicopter of President Daniel arap Moi also apparently responded to a tearful appeal for peace from Dr. Ouko's widow, Christabel.

Fears of violence at the burial had run high following fierce clashes between police and demonstrators in Dr. Ouko's constituency of Kisumu on Friday.

Riot police opened fire on demonstrators wounding two seriously as the foreign minister's body was flown in from Nairobi, where rioters also went on the rampage, stoning cars and looting.

Tension built up Saturday at Dr. Ouko's Koru farm, 80 kilometres (50 miles) east of Kisumu during a two-hour delay before the start of the burial service.

Kisumu District Commissioner Godfrey Mate warned protestors: "We don't want to use force but, if we have to, we will to maintain peace".

In his address at the burial President Moi, whose arrival here was greeted with deathly silence, pledged to "leave no stone unturned" in investigating the death of Dr. Ouko, his "brother and friend".

Kenya had lost "one of its greatest sons, one of the heroes of this country", he said.

Earlier Mrs. Ouko had directly appealed to demonstrators: "As the wife of the man lying there, I am pleading with you to let us send him off in peace".

The week following Dr. Ouko's death was marked by demonstrations in Nairobi, the university towns of Nakuru to the north and Eldoret to the north-west, Mombasa at the Indian Ocean coast and Kisumu itself, where two people have been confirmed killed last Tuesday.

Students had demanded to be "told the truth" about the death of Dr. Ouko, whose partly burned body was found six kilometres (four miles) from his Koru home.

The Kenya Government, which warned people not to speculate about the cause of the minister's death, have called in two British detectives from Scotland Yard to help in the investigations.

Tanzania

Julius Nyerere Comments on One-Party System

*EA2202183090 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service
in Swahili 1700 GMT 21 Feb 90*

[Text] Dar es Salaam—The chairman of the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM] Party, Julius Nyerere, today spoke about the political changes in Eastern Europe, where communist parties and their governments have been toppled.

Addressing heads of mass media institutions at his Msasani residence in Dar es Salaam, Mwalimu [teacher] said that those governments were overthrown because the people were demanding political, economic, and cultural freedom. Mwalimu Nyerere also said that the parties collapsed because they had no roots in the countries of Eastern Europe as they were merely imposed by the Soviet Union, following the Soviet capture of Eastern Europe during the Second World War.

He said that the developments in Eastern Europe were of major concern to the people of Tanzania since Tanzania, like the countries of Eastern Europe, was a one-party state and was in the process of building socialism.

The CCM chairman said one of the lessons we are bound to learn from Eastern Europe concerns leaders working closely with the citizens. He said leaders must narrow the gap between what they say and what they do, since on the

day when the people discovered the truth, all party and government leaders—just as happened in Eastern Europe—would suffer severely from the consequences.

Mwalimu gave a detailed explanation on the history of the one-party system in the country. He stated that it was wiser for Tanzanians to understand that Tanzania pursues a one-party structure out of the need to create unity in our nation.

He said the one-party system is not Tanzania's ideology. Therefore, Tanzanians ought to feel free to debate the benefits and disadvantages of a one-party system. He cautioned that when the stage was reached when talk of setting up a multi-party system was considered as treason, then there would be no need to pursue such a system any longer. [as heard] Mwalimu, therefore, warned Tanzania not to be startled into believing that a one-party system was God's command.

Mwalimu Nyerere elaborated on the problems of a single-party system, and contended that a one-party structure had the habit of lulling its leaders into a sound sleep, and often oppressing the citizens without any justification whatsoever.

Mwalimu said, however, that there was no need for Tanzania and other developing countries to try to ingratiate themselves with the leaders of the superpowers by blindly following the changes currently taking place in Eastern Europe. He said there was no need to make unnecessary changes following the political upheavals of Eastern Europe.

The party chairman conceded that some CCM leaders were not close enough to the people. He further said the CCM had many leaders who were completely isolated from the citizens and were too close to their desks. Mwalimu said this was a serious discrepancy which we must correct.

Uganda

NRA Forces Civilians Into Camp in Kumi District

AB2302231490 Paris AFP in English 1020 GMT
22 Feb 90

[Text] Kampala, Feb 22 (AFP)—Uganda's National Resistance Army (NRA) has forced about 100,000 civilians into camps in eastern Kumi District ahead of a military sweep against rebels of the Uganda People's Army (UPA).

Eyewitnesses told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by telephone from the eastern town of Mbale that everyone living in seven sub-counties of Kumi District had been forced out of their homes and moved into grass-thatched camps.

In Ngora sub-county alone, there were an estimated 30,000 people living in a camp at the county headquarters, where a number of children were reported to have died from a dysentery epidemic.

The eyewitnesses said the camp has only two boreholes for water which constantly broke down through over-use. The food situation was described as "acute" although the NRA had reportedly been escorting people to neighboring villages to collect food.

They said there had been looting of property left behind in abandoned homes.

Residents said they had only returned to their homes from camps last December after the NRA assured them that the villages had been cleared of rebels.

Rebels have however recently intensified attacks on the NRA. Last Thursday they mounted a third raid in less than two months on an NRA unit at nearby Atutur, killing two soldiers.

Government military operations against rebels in Uganda have frequently been accompanied by accusations of violations of civilians' human rights.

In a particularly harrowing incident in Mbale last July, 69 young men, due for release after screening for rebel sympathies, died from suffocation after the NRA forced a total of 200 people into disused railway wagons.

The Defence Ministry subsequently described the tragedy as "criminal negligence" and 14 army officers were arrested.

Reception Committee Releases Mandela's Itinerary*MB2302142190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1200 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 23 SAPA—The National Reception Committee on Friday released full details of ANC [African National Congress] patriarch Nelson Mandela's international itinerary when he jets out of South Africa next week.

The following is his programme:

Tuesday Feb 27:

Lusaka—5pm to 7pm—Meeting with Frontline leaders.
Lusaka—7pm to 9pm—Dinner hosted by President Kaunda

Wednesday Feb 28:

Lusaka—morning—Meeting with commonwealth heads of state, including Canadian Foreign Minister Mr. Joe Clark.

Thursday March 1 to Friday March 2:

Lusaka—Meeting with ANC NEC [National Executive Committee].

Saturday March 3 to Monday March 5:

Harare

Tuesday March 6 to Sunday March 11:

Tanzania

Monday March 12 to Thursday March 15:

Stockholm

Friday March 16:

Arrival back in Johannesburg.

Nelson Mandela To Address Durban Rally 25 Feb**Crowds Gather at Stadium***MB2502102090 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0842 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] Durban Feb 25 SAPA—Crowds of chanting people, some carrying ANC [African National Congress] flags, poured into the King's Park Stadium in Durban on Sunday [25 February] amid tight police security for the rally for Mr Nelson Mandela which is expected to attract about 200,000 people.

Mr Mandela is expected to make a call for peace in Natal.

A mobile police station has been set up near the venue.

Police detachments have been positioned at different points close to the stadium. At least two Casspirs [armored vehicles] were seen patrolling nearby and a police helicopter circled the area.

ANC marshalls wearing red sashes directed buses to parking bays and escorted the people across the road to the venue.

Marshalls also stood guard in front of shop windows to prevent a repetition of the looting of shops that took place in Cape Town when Mr Mandela was freed.

About 3,000 marshalls have been assigned to control the crowd.

Although dozens of buses have arrived, bus ranks set aside for the expected 500 buses, were still empty by 10AM.

Poetry recitals, music and dancing have been laid on to entertain the crowd before Mr Mandela is expected to address the rally at 1PM.

The chief minister of KwaZulu and Inkatha leader, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and representatives of the ANC, COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and UDF [United Democratic Front] alliance, have appealed to the people to exercise discipline and restraint during the rally.

The calls come in the wake of the circulation of anonymous pamphlets inciting opponents of the ANC into violent defiance against Sunday's gathering.

Makes 'Powerful Call' for Natal Peace*MB2502133190 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1100 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] Nelson Mandela has made a powerful call for peace in Natal.

Speaking to more than 100,000 people at King's Park, in Durban, the ANC [African National Congress] leader (?has) said people involved in the fighting must take their guns, knives, and pangas and throw them into the sea. Close down the death factories, he said, end this war now.

Mandela said he was extremely disturbed by recent acts of violence against Indians in Natal. He said the perpetrators of these attacks are enemies of the liberation movement. He said Indians and Africans suffered under the same oppression and have to unite.

Nelson Mandela has gone out of his way to give credit to Inkatha, a movement that supporters of his ANC have been at war with. Mandela said, although there were fundamental differences between the ANC and Inkatha, the ANC commended Inkatha for their demand over the years for the unbanning of the ANC and the release of political prisoners, as well as for their stand of refusing to participate in a negotiated settlement without the creation of the necessary climate.

He said the stand of Inkatha had contributed in no small measure for making it difficult for the regime to implement successive schemes designed to perpetuate minority rule.

Mandela said the ANC was presently preparing for a meeting with Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini. He said it

was his earnest wish that the meeting would establish a base on which to build real peace.

Mandela said the ANC extended the hand of peace to Inkatha, and hoped it may one day be possible to share a platform with its leader, Chief Buthelezi. He said the ANC recognized the rights of all organizations which were not racist to participate in political life. Mandela said both sides in Natal shared a common enemy and that was inadequate housing, forced removals, lack of resources as basic as that of water, and unemployment.

Nelson Mandela called upon the women of Natal. He said he charged them with a special responsibility to begin the work of bringing peace to the province. He said, in his words:

Tell your sons, your brothers, and your husbands that you want peace and security. It is you who must show them the real enemy.

This enemy, he said, was common deprivation. He said women should go out and meet women from the other side, and they should take their men with them. I want to hear from you, he said. From each and every community, I want a report on how peace was made.

Mandela's call for an end to the war has been greeted with loud applause.

He later flies to Bloemfontein to address a rally there and is expected back in Soweto tonight.

Addresses Bloemfontein Rally

*MB2502171890 Johannesburg SAPA Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Excerpts] The ANC [African National Congress] leader, Mr. Nelson Mandela, has called for an end to the violence in Natal and invited Afrikaners, in particular, to join the ANC.

Addressing about 100,000 people at King's Park, in Durban, Mr. Mandela said that he extended the hand of friendship to the Inkatha movement, led by Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, of KwaZulu. [passage omitted]

Speaking in Bloemfontein later, Mr. Mandela told a crowd of 20,000 that the ANC was the only political organization in South Africa whose doors were open to all races. He said that the ANC stuck to the Harare Declaration as the only policy for peace through negotiation but added that the government had not yet complied with all the preconditions of the declaration.

Mr. Mandela also appealed to the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, to take down the border fence between South Africa and Mozambique and to stop private organizations from supporting the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] in that country.

The secretary general of Inkatha, Dr. Oscar Dhlomo, has welcomed what he called Mr. Mandela's constructive

comments on ending violence in Natal, as well as his personal contribution to attempts to end the strife.

Dr. Dhlomo said that, now that the ANC had lent its full weight to peace efforts, he hoped that its followers in the residential areas would do the same.

Summons Police To 'Abandon Apartheid'

*MB2502173590 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1621 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] Bloemfontein Feb 25 SAPA—Mr Nelson Mandela called on the South African Police to abandon apartheid and "join the march to a new South Africa where the police also have their place".

Speaking at the [Orange] Free State Stadium in Bloemfontein to a rally of 40,000 people, he said he understood apartheid laws made it difficult for many honest policemen to carry out their tasks.

He urged them to serve the interests of the people and noted that there were places in South Africa where the police were acting with restraint and fulfilling the real role of protecting all people, irrespective of race.

He said, however, that he viewed with horror the moral decay in certain sections of the security establishment.

Earlier Mr Mandela had reiterated the ANC's total commitment to the rule of law. He said Bloemfontein was the judicial capital of the country, but under the state of emergency the police have taken over as the judicial capital.

Mr Mandela said not all judges and magistrates had spoken out against unjust laws. This failure caused shock but "we praise those judges and magistrates who have defended the integrity of the cause and whose enlightened judgments are hope for the future".

He condemned the absence of legal protection for, and the exploitation of, farm workers across the country.

It is painful for me to see that magistrates—officials who must dispense justice—considered a human life to be worth a fine of R100 [rand] or a suspended sentence.

Urges Open Amenities to 'All Races'

*MB2502173190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1642 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] Bloemfontein Feb 25 SAPA—A call was made to [Orange] Free State authorities to open amenities to all races without further delay by Mr Nelson Mandela at the rally in Bloemfontein to welcome him today.

He said this would be a step in the right direction as the Free State was seen as a bastion of white conservatism. He served notice that this state of affairs must be remedied.

He urged all workers, women, young people, township dwellers to help build a democratic future in the Free

State by joining organisations wherever they existed or, where they did not exist, by creating them.

Saying that there was nothing free about the Free State today, Mr Mandela pointed out that it had abundant resources but these filled the tables of a privileged minority of South Africans.

Many of the people still lived in poverty and, thus, the ANC [African National Congress] remained committed to a more equal distribution of the economy of the country.

"The people who work must enjoy the fruits of their labour", he said.

He paid tribute to the struggle of women in the Orange Free State and said he would echo their call in forthcoming talks with the government: "We have done with pleading. Now we demand."

He also called on "all peace-loving Afrikaners" to join the ANC and paid tribute to Braam Fischer, who he called "a heroic Afrikaner and born son of the Free State".

In calling on Afrikaners to join the ANC he said "let the proud spirit that moved you to name the area the Free State, guide you in the pursuit of a still greater freedom".

He added that the importance of the rally was enhanced by the fact that Bloemfontein was the birthplace of the ANC and said "the child conceived here in 1912 returns to its mother, older, stronger and wiser".

Urges Students Back to School

*MB2502172190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1659 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Excerpts] Bloemfontein Feb 25 SAPA—An appeal to the black school children in the [Orange] Free State to return to school was made by Mr Nelson Mandela at a rally in the Free State Stadium in Bloemfontein today.

"We do not think liberation before education is the correct slogan for our children", he said.

He pointed out that whites have more opportunities in South Africa for the education and skills needed to provide leadership, and if black children did not have the same skills they would be "totally useless to us and the country". [passage omitted]

He also appealed for discipline, "otherwise you can never win the struggle for freedom". It was only a disciplined community that could be entrusted with the task of leading the country, Mr. Mandela said.

Sisulu Acknowledges Natal Unrest 'Great Obstacle'

*MB2402150790 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1000 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] African National Congress leader Walter Sisulu has held a news conference in Durban at which he described the Natal violence problems as distasteful to the liberation struggle:

[Begin Sisulu recording] It has been a (?source) of trouble [word indistinct] distasteful to live with such a situation. We have a gigantic task of leading the liberation movement, but we are faced with this, which is a great obstacle in many ways. Our mission, therefore, here, is to try and find means and ways whereby we would put an end to this situation. [end recording]

Calls for Peace at Rally

*MB2302185190 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1838 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] Durban Feb 23 SAPA—African National Congress [ANC] leader Walter Sisulu on Friday [23 February] night urged township residents in Natal to contain their feelings and look on the mistakes of the past as a lesson never to be repeated.

In a statement issued to SAPA on an ANC letterhead, Mr. Sisulu, speaking on behalf of all five ANC leaders on a peace mission to Natal, said they had received frank accounts of the way in which the violence had affected every aspect of residents' lives.

In all the visits, he said, they were met by enthusiastic and disciplined people.

They were encouraged to continue with their peace mission, particularly by the victims of the violence.

Mr. Sisulu again asked "all of our people to act in a disciplined, peaceful and dignified way" after Sunday's rally at King's Park Stadium, Durban, to be addressed by Mr. Nelson Mandela.

Mandela Discusses Need To End Natal Violence

*MB2402122890 London BBC World Service in English
0709 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Interview with ANC leader Nelson Mandela by correspondent Jeremy Paxman in Soweto; date not given; from the "24 Hours" program—live or recorded]

[Text] With Nelson Mandela heading for Natal this weekend, what influence can he bring to bear on the rival groups. Mr. Mandela has been speaking to the BBC's Jeremy Paxman.

[Begin recording] [Mandela] It is not a nice spectacle to see our people killing one another. We don't want human beings killed because of any differences among them, and we are going to do everything in our power to see to it that peace is achieved in that province.

[Paxman] As you hear, Mr. Mandela, Chief Buthelezi and Inkatha blame the ANC [African National Congress] leadership in Lusaka for the continuing violence. What do you say to that allegation?

[Mandela] Neither of the involved parties can be said to be wrong or right, and we should concentrate our attention on trying to put an end to that violence, and that objective will be achieved not by blaming each other but by pooling our resources.

[Paxman] That implies that you and Chief Buthelezi have to get together and to get together quickly, doesn't it?

[Mandela] Well, I have already spoken to Chief Buthelezi and expressed my concern to him, and we will be meeting in due course after my return from Lusaka.

[Paxman] But are you confident that the ANC leadership can control the youths who are responsible for the violence?

[Mandela] It is not just a question of the ANC controlling those who are responsible for violence. The issue here is that there were originally two parties involved. That is the UDF [United Democratic Front]/COSATU [Congress of South Africa Trade Unions] alliance on the one hand, and Inkatha on the other. But now the position has been complicated by the role which the police are playing. Up to now their involvement has been calculated to worsen the violence. And secondly, there are criminals who are also involved, and the so-called warlords.

[Paxman] But do you regard Chief Buthelezi: as a friend or as a foe?

[Mandela, laughing] Well, that is irrelevant. The point is whether we are friends or foes, we are compelled to cooperate with each other in an attempt to solve the problem. [end recording]

Views UK Sanctions Position

*MB2402125890 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] Nelson Mandela says he does not agree with the British decision to unilaterally lift the four-year-old ban on new investments in South Africa.

Speaking in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation, Mandela said he did not believe there was any reason to lift sanctions until a political settlement is reached.

Britain yesterday formalized the decision to lift the ban on new investment, despite opposition to the move from almost all her allies.

Mandela plans to visit Britain in April and says he would like to meet with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, because as he puts it: There are a number of issues I would like to clear up with her.

Mandela also sought to reassure the South African business sector, which has been worried about statements on

nationalization. All economic questions are the subject of negotiation, and by (?implication), compromise, says Mandela.

Mandela also said the ANC [African National Congress] does not claim to be the only voice of (?other) black South Africans. He says the ANC is confident it can lead the struggle for change in the country but would prefer to work together with other interested parties.

With regard to the violence in Natal, Mandela says all concerned should concentrate attention on trying to bring the violence to an end. That objective, he says, is more likely to be achieved by all parties pooling their resources rather than blaming each other.

[Johannesburg Domestic Service in English at 0500 GMT on 24 February adds in a similar report: "Mr. Nelson Mandela has said in Soweto that although nationalization of industry is a basic ANC policy, the organization is willing to compromise with the government.

"Interviewed by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Mandela said if the ANC decided to negotiate, the organization had to be open to compromise."

De Klerk Calls for End to 'Outmoded Ideologies'

*MB2302200690 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1900 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] The state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, has appealed to groups clinging to outmoded ideologies to have the courage and common sense to abandon unworkable solutions to South Africa's problems.

Speaking at a banquet in Cape Town, he said that the challenge to South Africa was to base its policies on realities and not on illusions.

President de Klerk added that the government was committed to restructuring the economy.

De Klerk 'Expected' To Fire Defense Minister

*MB2502104490 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR
in English 25 Feb 90 pp 1, 2*

[By Political Correspondent David Breier]

[Text] President F.W. de Klerk is expected to fire General Magnus Malan, the Minister of Defence, over his involvement in the Defence Force hit-squad scandal.

Parliamentary sources have disclosed that Mr de Klerk is looking for a reason to get rid of General Malan, who is the last remnant of ex-President P.W. Botha's securocrats steeped in "total onslaught" theory.

General Malan is regarded in the Government as totally unsuitable to interpret policy to the South African [SA] Defence Force in the new negotiation era that is evolving.

His position has been thoroughly emasculated by recent developments under Mr de Klerk, including the halving

of National Service, cuts in the Defence Force and the demilitarisation of the National Management System.

This week he found himself virtually isolated as Cabinet members ran for cover, leaving it to lower levels of the Nat structure to defend him.

The Government's decision to give the go-ahead to tomorrow's snap debate in Parliament over the Civil Cooperation Bureau's involvement in political murders has even caught the Democratic Party [DP], by surprise. The DP asked for the debate, but doubted it would get the nod.

MPs believe this is further evidence of General Malan's isolation in the Cabinet.

The writing for General Malan was on the wall this week when Mr de Klerk said it was not the security forces that were under attack, but criminals. This came after General Malan had issued two statements interpreting criticism as an attack on the SA Defence Force.

Mr de Klerk's statement has been seen as a direct rebuttal of General Malan's desperate attempts this week to wriggle out of the crisis. MPs believe he has succeeded only in making things worse for himself.

General Malan is certain to receive a torrid time at the Harms Commission, which is investigating the hit squads. THE STAR reported this week that a chain of command led directly to him—although he has denied he gave any orders to commit murder.

Mr de Klerk has several scores to settle with General Malan, say parliamentarians. It is known that General Malan voted for Barend du Plessis when the Nat caucus elected a new party leader last year.

Now that "Big Brother"—in the form of P.W. Botha—is no longer there, General Malan is defenceless against the new generation of Nat leaders.

The Conservative Party [CP], which believes it could topple the Government because of a white backlash against the unbanning of the ANC [African National Congress], PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] and the SA Communist Party, is baying for the blood of the Government and of General Malan in particular.

CP spokesman Koos van der Merwe said that if members of the State Security Council knew of the hit squads, this meant that the Cabinet knew of them.

"It is inconceivable that the Cabinet did not know," he said, demanding the Government's resignation. "Clandestine operations must have a legal framework—then we have no problem with them. But they went overboard.

"Now the security forces are getting the blame while the political leaders get off scot-free. This would not have happened if the politicians did not allow it," he said.

"Mr de Klerk owes the country concrete proof that he is serious about this thing. Only through a dramatic gesture, like letting General Malan go, can he do this," he added.

Mr van der Merwe said that others who could be fired include Adriaan Vlok, the Minister of Law and Order, and Louis le Grange, his predecessor, now the Speaker of Parliament, because of other allegations concerning police hit squads.

Tian van der Merwe, chairman of the DP and a spokesman on law and order, said General Malan's statements this week, in which he referred to ANC violence, had made matters worse for the embattled Minister.

"It takes him into the area of justifying killings that have taken place. It is a justification of assassination. His attitude is intolerable.

"He should not be allowed to preside over the Department of Defence, at least until this matter is cleared up one way or another. It would be strange if he could manage to stay on as a Minister in the long run."

Right Wing Groups Request Interview With De Klerk

*MB2302225290 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN
in English 23 Feb 90 p 15*

[By Keith Abendroth]

[Excerpts] Six Afrikaner Right-wing organisations have asked State President de Klerk for an urgent interview to warn him that "continuing defiance of Afrikaner values and sentiments can only result in confrontation."

The bodies are the Herstigte Nasionale [Reformed National Party—HNP] and Boerestaat [Afrikaner Homeland Party] parties; the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement—AWB], the Genootskap van Regte Afrikaners [Society of True Afrikaners—GRA] the militant Afrikaner language conservation and protection [group]; the Boereseaparatisie [Afrikaner Separatists]; and the Magsaksie Afrikanernasionaliste [Power-Action Afrikaner Nationalists—MAN].

In a strongly worded joint statement giving their reasons for demanding the interview the leaders of the six bodies said yesterday that the government's actions since the beginning of February without any doubt amounted to an immediate threat to the future of the Afrikaner in the country. Afrikaner nationalism was being pushed by vast powers from its historically-won central place in South Africa and was being replaced with a communist-controlled African National Congress. [passage omitted]

The statement was signed for the HNP by Mr. Jaap Marais; the AWB by Mr. Eugene Terreblanche; the Boerestaat-party by Mr Robert van Tonder; the GRA by Mr. M.J. du Preez; the Boereseaparatisie by Dr. P. Cloete; and the MAN by Mr. O. Hartung.

Angola

Cuban Troop Withdrawal Resumes 25 Feb

*MB2602072590 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] After a month's suspension Cuba has resumed the withdrawal of its troops from Angola in terms of its agreement with South Africa and Angola.

The Portuguese news agency LUSA reports from Luanda that 150 Cuban troops returned to Havana yesterday. The troops were the first to leave Angola since Cuba stopped the withdrawal on the 25th of last month after the killing of four Cuban troops in a UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] attack.

Cuba announced on Thursday [22 February] after discussions with Angolan officials that it would resume the withdrawal. More than 31,000 of the estimated 50,000 Cuban troops in Angola have been sent home since the withdrawal began in January last year.

Savimbi Reportedly Accepts National Army Concept

*MB2502101090 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0600 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] A Portuguese weekly newspaper reports that the leader of the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement, Dr. Jonas Savimbi, has said in letters to Portuguese leaders that he is prepared to accept a single Angolan army.

The newspaper said that Dr. Savimbi had sent a letter to the Portuguese prime minister, Mr. Anibal Cavaco Silva, in which he said he accept such an army without prior political dialogue.

In earlier statements, Dr. Savimbi made free elections a precondition for accepting the Angolan Government's proposal of combining UNITA forces with government institutions.

In another letter sent to the Portuguese secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, Mr. Jose Manuel Durao Barroso, Dr. Savimbi said he was prepared to accept all realistic suggestions for a negotiated settlement. The report added that Dr. Savimbi's proposals had been sent to the Angolan Government, which had responded favorably.

FAPLA Announces Air Raid on UNITA Base

*LD2502014890 Lisbon Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0100 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] The Luanda authorities have announced that two FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] fighter-bombers have carried out a raid against UNITA's [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] Jamba military base.

A communique from the FAPLA General Staff describes the raid as a punitive action and a warning in retaliation against the rebel movement's acts of sabotage against Luanda's power and water supplies.

Communique Issued 24 Feb

*MB2502075590 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0700 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Communique issued by FAPLA's chief of general staff in Luanda on 24 February—read by announcer]

[Text] Following the liberation of Mavinga, the president of the People's Republic of Angola and FAPLA's [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] commander in chief once again appealed to Jonas Savimbi's common sense to implement the Gbadolite undertakings. The response to this appeal took the form of the [name indistinct] massacres, the disruption of water supplies to Luanda residents, several power cuts, and other massacres carried out in several parts of Angola, as well as desperate attempts to attack our supply columns heading to Mavinga, where various UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] elements continue to be killed.

Throughout the present phase of this struggle the Ministry of Defense has sought to avoid unnecessary casualties in the enemy's rear. Accordingly, no operations were ever carried out against the so-called Jamba. However, in view of Jonas Savimbi and his followers' stubborn disregard for human life, the Ministry of Defense felt obliged to exercise its sovereign right to fight armed bandits.

Accordingly, as a punitive action against acts of banditry which UNITA continues to carry out, at 1050 on 24 February 1990 two of our Air Force fighter bombers bombed military positions and targets in the town of Jamba.

With this important operation, which served only as a warning, the Ministry of Defense sought to once again appeal to Jonas Savimbi's common sense to adhere to the peace plan presented by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola. Depending on UNITA's future attitude, we reserve the right to launch even more vigorous punitive actions in the defense of peace. The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

[Signed] Colonel General Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, minister of defense

FAPLA Denounces Airspace Violation From Zaire

*MB2402161090 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] A People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] General Staff spokesman denounced a series of Angolan airspace violations from Zaire on 15, 16, 20, and 21 February.

The spokesman reiterated FAPLA forces continue to occupy the Mavinga area and challenged the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola to present evidence to the contrary.

He added that definite proof on who controls the Mavinga situation will be presented soon.

MPLA Party Central Committee Session Begins

*MB2402201590 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] The MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Central Committee began meeting in Luanda this afternoon, under President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's chairmanship.

The extraordinary meeting, decided on during the 24th Central Committee session last January, is expected to conclude tomorrow.

The meeting will essentially examine draft topics to be presented at the party third congress, as well as other documents in preparation of this important event, due to take place in December.

Assembly Secretariat Postpones Session to 2 Mar

*MB2402203790 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1930 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] Luanda, 24 February (ANGOP)—The People's Assembly (parliament) plenary session scheduled for 1 March has been postponed to 2 March "for reasons beyond control".

This is revealed in a note from this organ's secretariat distributed in Luanda today.

The note also announces the postponement of a lecture on "environment". It will now take place in Luanda on 27 February.

Lesotho

Judge Swears in New Ministers, Council Members

*MB2202172590 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 22 Feb 90*

[Text] Members of the Military Council and members of the Council of Ministers were sworn in this afternoon by Chief Justice Cullinan.

The new members of the Council of Ministers are:

Lt. Col. (M.V. Mokoni), in charge of the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications and the Ministry of Works;

Lt. Pius Molapo, in charge of employment, social security, and pensions;

Maj. (Meharensin Habe), in charge of the Ministry of Highlands, Water, and Energy;

Mr. Tom Thabane, minister of foreign affairs, also in charge of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Mr. A.K. Maope, in charge of the Ministry of Justice and Prisons and the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs. He also retains his office of attorney general; Mr. L. Thoahlane as minister of health; and Col. A.L. Jane retains his post as minister of water, energy, and mining.

While Mr. E.R. Sekhonyana still keeps his portfolio as minister of finance, Mr Patrick Molapo is the minister of interior, chieftainship affairs, and rural development.

Mrs. A.M. Hlalele is still minister of state in the office of the chairman, with responsibilities for youth and women's affairs.

Mr. M. Mokoroane retains his portfolio in the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

The Ministry of Agriculture will remain the responsibility of the chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, His Excellency Maj. Gen. Metsing Lekhanya.

The outgoing ministers are: Dr. S.T. Makenete, Mr. B.M. Khaketla, Mr. Michael Sefali, Mr. Vincent Malebo, Col. P.M. Mokhantso, Mr. Mathealira Seeiso, Mr. M. Tiheli, Dr. R. Phororo, and Mr. Mohomane Lebotsa.

Lekhanya Meets Press; Denies King Under Arrest

*MB2202174790 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 22 Feb 90*

[Text] The chairman of the Lesotho Military Council, Major General Metsing Lekhanya, has denied reports that King Moshoeshoe II is under house arrest.

Gen. Lekhanya said at a news conference in Maseru that King Moshoeshoe was still the head of state. The executive power was, however, exercised by the Military Council.

Our special representative in Maseru said that the king did not attend the induction today of the three new members of the Military Council because he had not approved their appointments.

Gen. Lekhanya said that the dismissal of the three former members of the Military Council had been necessary for the progress of democracy and for the adaptation of the constitution. He said that the step would also contribute towards making the country self-sufficient as far as food production was concerned.

Gen. Lekhanya said that the conflict between himself and the king had not arisen because of the difference between his alleged positive attitude about South Africa and the king's alleged positive attitude towards Africa. He said that they had a right to differ about the matter.

The three new members of the Military Council are the commander of the Lesotho Army, Brigadier Benedict

Lerotholi; the head of the army planning division, Lieutenant Colonel Molise Mokete; and the head of the army's legal division, Colonel Jacob Jane.

The name of the new member of the Ministers' Council will be announced later.

Democratic Rule Planned for 1992

*MB2302141890 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1144 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] Maseru Feb 23 SAPA—The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers of Lesotho, Major-General Justin Letsing Lekhanya, on Friday [23 February] announced the establishment of a task force to coordinate policy formulation, including a time-table for the return of Lesotho to democratic rule by 1992 at the latest.

Addressing a press conference in Maseru, he said members of the army and some ministers would constitute the task force, to be called the "political committee", under chairmanship of the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr. Tom Thabane.

All members of the six-man Military Council reconstituted on Thursday attended the conference.

Gen. Lekhanya referred to the reorganisation of the Council of Ministers and said this had been streamlined to share a common administrative infrastructure.

The portfolios of finance and planning had been combined under one minister. Those of works, transport and communications, those of foreign affairs, information and broadcasting, and those of justice and law, had been restructured under three ministers.

He said in this way, he had eliminated four ministerial posts with all attendant expenses.

Gen. Lekhanya emphasised the importance these measures meant in the implementation of Lesotho's structural adjustment programme.

He said he had also decided to professionalise the army to underline the importance of service to the country and its population.

"I shall get the army into productive services such as agriculture and road activities, but mostly to form an elite coordinating corps for civil defence activities."

He added a small but highly trained and disciplined army "with high mobility because of our peculiar terrain" was needed.

On foreign affairs, he said his government would foster understanding among nations, particularly in southern Africa.

Gen. Lekhanya also referred to Lesotho's concern for a speedy democratisation of South Africa by encouraging

parties in the political process there to work towards a non-apartheid South Africa.

Government Changes Reported

*MB2302181590 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, His Excellency Major General Metsing Lekhanya, has announced the new policy of the government.

Addressing a press conference in Maseru this morning, held at his office, he said his first duty is coordinating policy formulation. A task force composed of some members of the army and some ministers, to be chaired by the minister of foreign affairs, will act as a political committee. It shall report to the major general and the two councils within 14 days of its establishment.

Among the recommendations it has to make will be a timetable for the democratization of the country by 1992, at the latest.

He pointed out that bribery in the (?courts) of law will be eliminated in the shortest possible time. The attorney general shall be free to accept any evidence and to dispose of it in any manner, including prosecution of any offender or anybody who, in his opinion, is engaged or has been engaged in corrupt activities, including self-enrichment by means of bribery. Public institutions like (?Execo) shall be open to all producers.

The major general said in order to reduce the government's expenditure he has combined ministries that share a common administrative structure, and this has resulted in the elimination of four ministerial posts and their related expenses.

On foreign policy, Maj. Gen. Lekhanya said the country will strive for understanding among nations, especially in southern Africa, as well as encourage the total dismantling of apartheid in South Africa. He said Lesotho will also encourage the southern African governments to form a common market aimed at integrating their economies.

In the defense, he said he is faced with the task of converting Lesotho Army into professionally trained and highly mobile institution. The army shall also engage in productive services, such as agriculture, as well as coordinate civil defense activities.

He pointed out that the Ministry of Interior will immediately review land administration procedures and citizenship given to aliens in the last 4 years [word indistinct] the recommendations of the task force comprising some ministers and army officers, Maj. Gen. Lekhanya indicated that the intention is to privatize Lesotho Airways and the Lesotho Freight Services, among others. He said the move will stop further drainage of the country's funds. He also announced that Lesotho's Boeing 707 [name indistinct] is on sale from today.

In conclusion, the major general reiterated that this year has been declared the year of fulfillment, and a list of major objectives that include the formation of the national representative council will be achieved.

Commentary Criticizes King's Message to Nation

*MB2302173390 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Station commentary]

[Text] A government spokesman, reacting to the statement entitled A Message to Basotho Nation by His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II, said:

Government is very saddened by this message, regardless of its contents, as it was drafted and disseminated without his majesty consulting his government.

This act is reminiscent of acts which have compromised, to a large extent, the position of his majesty in relation to the government and the nation.

The government spokesman further reiterated that this government's policy is to defend the position of his majesty and his majesty's heirs, and it will not assume responsibility for acts by the monarch who does not take advice of his government.

God save the king!

Malawi

President Banda Reshuffles Cabinet 23 Feb

*MB2302191190 Blantyre Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr. Kamuzu Banda has appointed a new cabinet.

This was announced today by a spokesman of the Office of the President and Cabinet, in Lilongwe.

The new cabinet is as follows:

Minister of Agriculture	His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr. Kamuzu Banda
Minister of External Affairs	His excellency the life president
Minister of Works	His excellency the life president
Minister of Justice	His excellency the life president
Minister Without Portfolio	Honorable Maxell Pashane
Minister of Labor	Honorable Wadson Deleza
Minister of Local Government	Honorable Edward Bwanali
Minister of Trade, Industry, and Tourism	Honorable Robson Chirwa
Minister of Finance	Honorable Louis Chimango
Minister of Forestry and Natural Resources	Honorable Stanford Demba
Minister of Community Services	Honorable Katola Phiri

Minister of Transport and Communications	Honorable Dalton Katopola
Minister of Education and Culture	Honorable Michael Mlambala
Minister of Health	Honorable Mfunjo Mwanjasi Mwakikunga

The spokesman said the appointments are with effect from today.

Mozambique

Mocumbi: Renamo Understands Peace Conditions

*MB2602092890 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0800 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocimbi has said that the armed bandit ringleaders have begun to understand the necessary conditions to restore peace in the country.

According to the Mozambique News Agency, which cites Minister Mocumbi, progress is being made on the path toward peace and stability in Mozambique.

Minister Pascoal Mocumbi returned from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia last Saturday [24 February], where he attended a meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity.

Speaking at a news conference, the foreign minister admitted that there still existed some obstacles which, according to him, must be overcome before a direct dialogue between the government and the so-called Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] can take place.

Swaziland

King Sends Message to South African President

*MB2302173690 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] The minister of labor and public service, Senator Ben Nsibandze, left the country yesterday for South Africa to deliver a royal message from his majesty the king to the South African president, F.W. de Klerk.

Concerning this, the prime minister's private secretary, Mr. Paul Shabangu, says the message is likely to be delivered today.

He says the minister is accompanied by the chief of protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. John Dube, and the content of the message was not immediately known to the press.

The two-man delegation is expected home this weekend.

Nelson Mandela Sends Message to King Mswati III

MB2402133790 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS
in English 24 Feb 90 p 1

[By Gordon Mbuli]

[Text] Prince Thumbumuzi, on Thursday [22 February] delivered a special message to His Majesty King Mswati III from African National Congress (ANC) leader, Mr Nelson Mandela.

This was confirmed by Prince Thumbumuzi yesterday before he boarded his plane to Johannesburg on his way to Soweto where he is presently staying with his in-laws.

The Prince is the son in law of Mr Mandela.

Prince Thumbumuzi arrived in the country on Tuesday and was accompanied by his wife, Inkhosikati La-Mandela daughter of Mr Mandela and his three children.

Before he left yesterday, Prince Thumbumuzi met with the Prime Minister, Mr Obed Dlamini.

Prince Thumbumuzi who is presently studying in Boston, will accompany his father in-law Mr Nelson Mandela to Lusaka where Mr Mandela will address an ANC summit next week.

Benin

Kerekou Warns Against 'Civilian Coup' Inclinations

AB2302145890 Paris AFP in French 0948 GMT
22 Feb 90

[By AFP special correspondent Christian Spillman]

[Text] Cotonou, 22 Feb (AFP)—On Wednesday, 21 February, Benin's head of state, General Mathieu Kerekou, publicly cautioned his opponents against any "civilian coup" inclinations, warning that neither he nor his government would allow themselves to be "dismissed." President Kerekou gave this warning in an unexpected speech before the 488 delegates who have been meeting since Monday, 19 February, in the Beninese capital to draw up a draft constitution.

Gen. Mathieu Kerekou has been in power since a 26 October 1972 coup, and was reelected in August last year for another five-year term of office. He has, however, granted a concession to the opposition, which has been very critical of his government, by declaring his preparedness to reshuffle his cabinet in order to defuse tension and allow a new constitution to be adopted.

The reaction of the delegates to his warning has been very varied. Some "star performers" in the opposition who were interviewed by AFP, especially former President Emile Derlin Zinsou, saw in this remark President Kerekou's desire to prepare a smooth transition and map out for himself an honorable way out which he can control. Most of them said they were prepared to operate along that line if that is the real intention of the head of state. Several delegates, on the other hand, particularly those representing trade unions, ruled out any form of compromise with the regime and its leadership and demanded their "immediate" resignation.

"President Kerekou has proved very shrewd by confronting the opposition with its own responsibilities", remarked several delegates representing some 50 odd political "tendencies", each of which seeks to defend its own interests. Their leaders have been holding consultations since Wednesday on how to conduct themselves now. All parties agree on the need to put the country, which has been paralyzed by social strife for over one year now, back on its feet, and have shown their determination to avoid confrontation, which would merely plunge Benin into chaos.

A consensus seems to be in sight today on the appointment of a number of personalities who, subject to some guarantees, could be incorporated in a transitional government charged with "breaking the deadlock" until a draft constitution is adopted. Its drafting by a committee set up within the national conference is expected to take about six months, informed sources believe.

The merit of the "transitional government" approach is that it is in tune with the democratic standards which all

the conference participants claim to stand for. The discussions, observers noted, could however stumble over the place to be given to the People's Revolution Party of Benin (PRPB), the only legally recognized party which, in December last year, lost its power to direct the affairs of the state which it had been controlling for 15 years. Its members consider themselves let down by President Kerekou, and feel threatened, especially as many of them are accused of maladministration and improper conduct of state business. The behavior of the Army—especially the Presidential Guard (numbering about 1,000 men) which already feels disturbed about the consequences of a return to civilian rule—remains an equally unknown factor, informed Beninese circles point out. The Beninese Army is no novice to coups, and its former demons continue to haunt it, observers believe. Left out completely in the strategies drawn up by the opposition, it may be tempted to intervene.

National Conference Adopts Declaration

AB2502162490 Dakar PANA in French 1500 GMT
25 Feb 90

[Text] Cotonou, 25 Feb (PANA)—The "conference of the active forces of the nation" today in Cotonou adopted by consensus a declaration in which it decided to "set up a national monitoring organ, charged with monitoring the transition process and to set up institutions for the new republic."

The declaration, which was the object of contradictory and at times passionate debates, stressed the "total lack of credibility and legitimacy of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin that has ruled the country since 1975." It also decided to adopt a national union charter.

This charter, it is pointed out, will serve as a basis for "the drafting of a new constitution by a commission which the conference will set up and which will work independently vis a vis the state bodies. This new constitution will be approved by referendum."

Also, the "declaration on the objectives and competence of the conference," which was declared open on 19 February by President Mathieu Kerekou, declared "null and void the Fundamental Law [Constitution] and illegal all the organs set up by the ruling party for the purpose of state administration. [no closing quotation marks as received]

The document adopted today underwent an amendment proposed by the Armed Forces delegation and also "proclaimed solemnly its sovereignty and the mandatory power of its decisions."

Also, the conference has accepted that the present head of state, President Mathieu Kerekou, who has been in power since 1972, should lead the country during the transition period.

The conference, which was expected to end yesterday, is still continuing. Also, in a special motion, the conference demanded the release of all political detainees in Benin.

The government of President Kerekou, it is pointed out, has just promulgated a decree aimed at restoring the confiscated assets of several Beninese personalities reportedly living in exile.

New Bi-Monthly Magazine L'OPINION Launched

*AB2202095590 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 17 Feb 90*

[Excerpt] The renowned philosophy professor, Paulin Hountondji, has put aside his philosophic rhetorics and decided to throw his weight behind the struggle for a new democratic society. His new weapon is L'OPINION, a bi-monthly magazine which Professor Hountondji has just set up. L'OPINION aims at being a public opinion newspaper, open to all ideas even contradictory. Prof. Paulin Hountondji, managing editor of L'OPINION told our reporters Vincent Dassi and Marcel Djobo the watchwords of his newspaper and the ideals it is defending. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] I simply felt that the democratic movement launched in our country a little over a year ago needed an additional medium of expression. Some close friends and I thought it necessary to set up a newspaper that would fall resolutely in line with this democratic movement which is very important, a newspaper which should open free discussions on the major problems facing democracy and its demands in today's Benin. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The Gambia

Jawara, Nigeria's Babangida Issue Joint Communique

*AB1902224690 Dakar PANA in English 1840 GMT
19 Feb 90*

[Text] Dakar, 19 Feb. (PANA)—The Gambian head of state, Sir Dawda Jawara, and President Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria on Monday in Banjul expressed their satisfaction at the release of "Dr. Nelson Mandela" by the South African regime. They were equally pleased with the unbanning of the African National Congress, the Pan-Africanist Congress and other organisations by the South African regime.

In a joint communique signed on the last day of Babangida's visit to Banjul, as chief guest of honour at The Gambia's 25th independence anniversary on Sunday, the two leaders also called on the Pretoria regime to create without further delay a conducive climate for dialogue between South Africans of all races, creed and political persuasions. In this regard, they said there was need to lift the state of emergency, release all political prisoners and declare of South Africa in their

arduous and complex task of building a new democratic and non-racial society and their total commitment to the eradication of apartheid. [sentence as received]

They also expressed satisfaction over the irreversible march of Namibia toward national independence at the same time paying homage to the fallen heroes of the liberation war. They congratulated the people of Namibia on their hard won victory.

On Western Sahara, Jawara and Babangida regretted the resumption of hostilities and called on the two sides to accept to enter into dialogue to resolve the conflict in accordance with the OAU and the UN peace plan.

With regard to the conflicts around the continent and the West African sub-region, the two leaders called on African states to eschew the conflicts so as to channel scarce resources into development.

On the Middle East, they reaffirmed their belief in a comprehensive and lasting solution to the Palestine question which they said only be achieved within the framework of an international conference with the equal participation of all the parties to the conflict.

The two leaders expressed confidence in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) as an effective instrument for the states' collective campaign against poverty and underdevelopment. They reaffirmed commitment to the attainment of the ECOWAS objective of integrating the sub-region and stressed the need for member states to honour their financial obligations to the organisation. They called on ECOWAS member states to accelerate the harmonisation of development policies and socio-economic strategies along the lines of the Monrovia strategy, the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos for the Economic Development of Africa.

Noting the multifarious problems facing the African Continent, they reiterated the need for Africa to rid itself of poverty and increasing marginalisation in the international arena, through the economic integration of the continent.

The two leaders also showed their great concern over persistent attempts to dump toxic and radioactive wastes in Africa and denounced the practice as morally reprehensible and an affront to the dignity of Africans. They pointed to the devastating effects of this practice on human health and the environment, and appealed to all African countries to join efforts to ward off the menace.

After the signing ceremony, Babangida responded to a few questions posed by Radio Gambia, during which he described the prospects for Nigeria's future cooperation with Gambia as very bright. In the joint communique, the two leaders had reaffirmed their commitment to the full implementation of all existing agreements and related protocols between their two countries, and directed that the next session of the joint committee meet immediately to draw up an action programme.

The Nigerian leader also told Radio Gambia that "the Jawara initiative" with Nigeria over the Mauritania/Senegal conflict would be pursued to help bring about a resolution of the problem. With regard to the schedule for the transition to civilian rule in Nigeria, Babangida assured Radio Gambia that the schedule was perfectly on course.

Ivory Coast

Students Demonstrate at Abidjan Cathedral 23 Feb

AB2302173490 Paris AFP in French 1652 GMT
23 Feb 90

[Text] Abidjan, 23 Feb (AFP)—Several hundred students this afternoon demonstrated at the John Paul II Cathedral in Abidjan in the Plateau district of the city, an AFP correspondent noted from the scene. The students say they want to be "heard" by the authorities, but did not say how long they plan to remain there. Police have blocked the access roads to the cathedral and at 1615 GMT, they turned back the many students who tried to enter the Cathedral grounds.

The students say they arrived there in small groups from the Cocody campus, the residential area, and from the Yopougon University hostel, a working class district, by avoiding police checkpoints.

Students Sequestered in Cathedral

AB2302200890 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 23 Feb 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There has been mounting concern in the Ivory Coast capital, Abidjan, today, about a possible violent end to a week of big student demonstrations. They started as protests over power cuts, but rapidly grew into complaints about the government's economic policies, and even turned against the president, Houphouët-Boigny, himself. The police have used strongarm tactics to disperse the demos. Things quietened down while the government held big meetings. But another protest was scheduled this afternoon at the Cathedral in Abidjan. On the line, Ruth Tholby asked Elizabeth Blunt what had happened.

[Begin recording] [Blunt] Well, it was not exactly a conventional sort of demonstration. What the students decided to do was to hold a protest meeting, but to hold it inside the cathedral, where they thought the police could not really catch them. They did not actually tell the cathedral authorities what they were going to do, but they arranged that everybody would come singly, and quite a large number did, perhaps 150, even perhaps 200 students arrived inside the cathedral for this meeting. They saw one of the priests in charge who told them that really this was not the place to hold a meeting of any sort. If they wanted to come and pray, they could come and pray. If they wanted to hold a meeting, they should do it in one of the meeting halls, but otherwise, they should

either pray or they should go. And eventually they agreed that he should lead them in prayers, and then they would leave.

But the problem by then was that the police had arrived, the gendarmes had arrived, and they were all round the cathedral. And the question was how they were going to leave.

[Tholby] So was there any violence?

[Blunt] As of a quarter of an hour ago when I left there, no. Everybody... [changes thought] It was really a standoff. At one time, the gendarmes went into the cathedral grounds and stood all round the cathedral with rubber truncheons and rifles. And then they were withdrawn, and we could see the security men negotiating with some of the senior clergy of the church. So they are trying to decide what to do next. It is now the evening rush hour and there is a lot of traffic and a lot of people coming by to watch. Those students are still inside.

[Tholby] Why do you think they headed for the church? Were they trying to perhaps involve the church in their struggle?

[Blunt] Perhaps, yes. And the Catholic Church in Ivory Coast has been recently sympathetic. The bishops have made quite serious social criticisms in their sermons, and have also said some quite hard things about the affair of the president's basilica. So the students may feel that the church is potentially on their side.

[Tholby] Now, has there been any indication from the authorities that the students are being listened to at all?

[Blunt] Eh, not directly, no. The authorities have said nothing whatsoever directly about the students' affair. They have called meetings this week, and they have now announced that there will be a big National Council meeting on Monday where 2,000 or more people will be there to hear the president speak. The president will say what the government has decided to do about the various grievances presented to him last September by various social groups at a big national meeting that they had dubbed, days of dialogue. It could just be coincidence but it rather sounds as if they have chosen this way of appeasing people: finally announcing what they are going to do about these grievances just the very week that the students are demonstrating. [end recording]

Riot Police Clash With Students

AB2302211090 Paris AFP in English 2047 GMT
23 Feb 90

[Text] Abidjan, Feb 23 (AFP)—Riot police wielding truncheons broke up some three hundred students demonstrating outside the John Paul II Cathedral here Friday as 150 other students were holed up inside for more than five hours.

About 30 police and gendarmes charged an angry group of students trying to negotiate the release of their colleagues. Police brutally beat students, some of whom were on the ground, and chased others far down streets surrounding the cathedral.

At least 15 of the University of Abidjan students were thrown into police vans and hauled off in a violent climax to a week of demonstrations.

It was not known if any of the students had been seriously injured. Windows of two cars were also broken.

Security forces briefly detained an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE photographer after smashing his camera on the ground and confiscating his equipment.

Tension mounted after students took to the cathedral earlier Friday afternoon. They said they wanted a safe place to meet to organize themselves, adding that they have not chosen leaders.

Father Jean-Pierre Koutwa told the students they could stay only if they intended to pray.

It was the first time students demonstrated in the Abidjan city center, near the presidential palace, the ministries, courts, National Assembly and numerous banks and businesses.

Some police officers said that they allowed the students to leave the University of Abidjan campus and residence halls in Cocody and Yopougon.

Catholic Bishop S.E. Bernard Yago arrived at the cathedral but did not meet students nor security forces before quickly returning home.

Students initially began a protest Monday over frequent power cuts which have disrupted their examinations. They also say they want cheaper meals and accommodation costs.

They have also demanded to meet government officials and Ivory Coast's octogenarian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny himself to discuss political changes they want to see in the West African state.

Newspaper Correspondent Arrested

*AB2402072490 Paris AFP in French 2358 GMT
23 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP)—The FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent here was arrested last night as he came out of the Cathedral, which had been occupied by students since early in the afternoon, journalists on the scene report.

At 2315, Mr. Mark Huband, 26, who arrived in Ivory Coast recently, was standing in front of the Cathedral with a policeman at his side. A short distance away was the British ambassador, Mrs. Veronica Sutherland, who had come to try and secure his release.

In the afternoon, an AFP photographer had been arrested at the same place, and some of his equipment was broken. But he was promptly released. Also, an AFP reporter had been arrested on Thursday, 22 February, but was courteously released after a check of his identity and accreditation cards.

Such incidents are quite rare in Ivory Coast, where there are many foreign journalists, who are usually well treated.

Students Leave Cathedral

*AB2402080790 Paris AFP in French 0256 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP)—The students who staged a sit-in at Abidjan Cathedral yesterday afternoon have been leaving the premises since about 0200 GMT, and the FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent has been released, according to journalists on the scene.

Some students allowed policemen standing on the esplanade around the Cathedral to check their identity cards and take pictures of them, and then they began to freely leave the place, journalists said. Other students, who would not let policemen check their identity cards or photograph them, have remained within the religious precinct, but outside the building, where the lights have been turned off.

Mark Huband, 26, who has been working as FINANCIAL TIMES correspondent for a few weeks and who had been arrested earlier in the evening, was released shortly before 0200 GMT. British Ambassador Veronica Sutherland had spent part of the evening in front of the Cathedral to secure his release.

Father Jean-Pierre Koutoua, the parish priest, left the cathedral shortly after the departure of the first group of students, without commenting on the occupation of the religious precinct, around which policemen and gendarmes were still stationed.

100 Students Arrested

*AB2402063390 Paris AFP in English 0359 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Excerpt] Abidjan, Feb 24 (AFP)—Riot police wielding truncheons broke up some three hundred students demonstrating outside the John Paul II Cathedral here Friday, and early Saturday arrested at least 100 who had been holed up inside for several hours.

Those arrested were taken away in police vans after police officers had told them they would be escorted to their halls of residence. But journalists on the scene said they were taken to the central police station.

Earlier about 30 police and gendarmes charged an angry group of students trying to negotiate the release of at least 15 of their colleagues from the University of Abidjan who were thrown into police vans and hauled off in a violent climax to a week of demonstrations.

Police brutally beat students, some of whom were on the ground, and chased others far down streets surrounding the Cathedral. [passage omitted]

Schools, Lecturers Support Students

*AB2402140590 Paris AFP in French 1304 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP)—Ivorian students today continued their boycott of classes and some of them won support from high school students in the working class district of Yopougon, close to the students' hostel, AFP journalists report.

No one knows the fate of some 100 students arrested last night after evacuating the cathedral, where they had staged a sit-in yesterday morning. The clergy has made no comment on the outcome of the sit-in.

Some 100 students from the Yopougon students' hostel today visited at least three senior and junior high schools in the district to convince the younger students to join the boycott. According to an AFP journalist, they occasionally made use of threats to get these secondary schools closed.

Helmeted policemen and gendarmes with their usual individual weapons and batons are quite numerous around the students' hostel, but they have not intervened and no incident had been reported as of 1130 GMT.

There were only a few students present on the campus at Cocody, and they later hastily departed for the weekend. Last night, the National Union for Research and Higher Education announced its support for the students, whose action seems uncoordinated.

Union Demands Students' Release

*AB2402165990 Paris AFP in French 1532 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP)—The Executive Committee of the National Union for Research and Higher Education (Synares), yesterday gave its support to students who have been demonstrating since Monday night, according to a communique of this official union. In that communique, the Synares demands "the immediate release of arrested students" (without specifying their number), "the evacuation of university residences and the campus, the abandonment of the systematic resort to repression, and the consideration, through genuine dialogue, of the students' aspirations."

The union is of the opinion that the university is in "a crisis situation," and that a simple incident has "very rapidly taken on dramatic proportions. This unexpected development underscores the deep malaise into which the Ivorian society has been thrown and especially the present discontent of the students."

They demand that "the immense fortune illicitly acquired and stashed away abroad should be brought back, and that personalities who obtained huge loans

through state guarantees should be summoned to repay them as soon as possible." They are opposed to salary cuts which foreign financial backers are pushing the government to adopt. And finally, they demand "a multiparty democratic system which allows for the expression of all opinions."

Protestors Urge Colleagues' Release

*AB2402163990 London BBC World Service in English
1608 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[From the "World News" program]

[Text] There have been further protests in the Ivory Coast city of Abidjan by students demanding political reform. Demonstrators marched through the city calling for the release of colleagues thought to number more than 100 who have been detained during a week of protests.

Meanwhile, the Roman Catholic clergy in Abidjan has expressed anger about the way the authorities ended a sit-in yesterday at the city's cathedral. Church sources complained that the students were given guarantees of safe conduct back to their colleges, but instead, were taken to a police station and beaten, along with a priest who accompanied them.

'Vandalism,' 'Looting' Reported

*AB2402171490 Paris AFP in French 1619 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP)—Groups of youths today committed acts of vandalism and looting at Treichville and Yopougon, the two most populous wards of Abidjan, AFP journalists on the spot have observed. At Yopougon, the most populous ward of the city, young people, including many pupils still wearing their school uniforms, (white shirts and blue pairs of trousers), stoned buses, trucks, and especially vehicles belonging to the state (which are recognizable by their yellow license plates and black numerals), but did not attack passengers. They also looted about 20 shops, according to a journalist who, however, reported no injuries.

The police and the gendarmerie intervened with their truncheons to disperse youths who were attacking vehicles. They also systematically prevented them from boarding the few buses leaving for the other districts of the city, but they do not seem to have made any arrests.

At Treichville, the environs of the headquarters of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally (PDCI-RDA, which has been in power since independence in 1960), are being heavily guarded by many policemen and members of the Republican Security Guards (CRS), who encouraged traders to close shop. Small groups of demonstrators were dispersed by police charges, but they regrouped a little further on. No arrests have been reported, but the situation remained

tense at 1530 GMT in this ward which has a population of several thousand people, including many unemployed people.

Cardinal Reportedly 'Very Angry'

*AB2402190890 Paris AFP in English 1820 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Excerpts] Abidjan, Feb 24 (AFP)—Groups of youths, including many students in school uniform, stormed through the Yopougon District of downtown Abidjan on Saturday, stoning cars, trucks and buses and looting about 20 stores.

Witnesses said government-owned vehicles, recognizable by their yellow license plates with black letters and numbers, were sought out by the stone-throwing crowd.

Policemen and gendarmes used clubs to disperse the rioters, although no arrests or injuries were reported. [passage omitted]

Police arrested and beat up a priest of John Paul II Cathedral here overnight after student protestors in search of a safe meeting place occupied the building, church sources said Saturday.

Father Jean-Pierre Koutoua was shoved into one of the vans police used when they promised to take the students back to their halls of residence, but instead drove them to the central police station.

The priest protested that the police had broken their word, but was beaten with truncheons for his pains and locked up with the students. Another priest managed to get away and raised the alarm. [passage omitted]

Father Koutoua was released early Saturday after the auxiliary bishop of the Ivorian economic capital, Monsignor Paul Dacoury, went to the police station.

Both men walked out with the bishop himself, Cardinal Bernard Yago, who also turned up. The cardinal refused to make a statement but church sources said he was "extremely angry". [Paris AFP in French at 1802 GMT carries a similar report which adds: "The cardinal then met the minister of internal security, General Issouf Kone, who had been seen several times around the cathedral, and people in church circles stress the 'very angry state' of the cardinal."] [passage omitted]

Reaction to Synares Tract Reported

*AB2402233890 Abidjan Television Ivoirienne Network
in French 2000 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] We open this newscast with the reading of a letter that Mr. Zadi Grekou, a professor at the Arts Department of the National University and teacher at the Advanced National School [ENS—Teachers College] has just sent to the secretary general of the National Union for Research and Higher Education [Synares]. This letter is a reply of militants to allegations contained in a tract signed by Ette Marcel, secretary general of the Synares,

and widely broadcast on foreign radios. This tract concerns the situation which is alleged to prevail at the National University. This was what Mr. Zadi Grekou wrote:

My Dear Ette,

A reader of your personal letter is called upon to be carried away by his instincts, to spontaneously draw from rudimentary (?falsehoods) and abandon himself there. It is noticed that you generally present your objectives as a defense of the national community and its so-called traditional values. But in your reactionary literature, you avoid the scientific approach, and you swim in a sort of idealization of the myth of socialism to find a panacea to the crisis of Ivory Coast.

Mr. Grekou continues: My dear, there is nothing original in your concepts exposed—nothing that could be characterized as something new—it is essentially the dream of a crank. And, like all dreams, lies are hidden therein. I am conscious of the crisis, Mr. Ette [as heard] says, even if the authorities are not able to cope with it presently. In spite of this, I cannot allow low-level thinkers to brainwash our children. Your enterprise first of all seemed to all Ivorians as the innocent dream of a mentally unbalanced person. But after reading what you write, one cannot laugh over your all-out accusations.

Mr. Grekou continues: Like oil which floats on the surface of water, lies float on the surface of truth, and it is this truth that I want to restore, says Mr. Grekou, by these five questions:

First question: Is your letter your diabolical work?

Second question: At your well-remunerated retirement, do you still remain the secretary general of the Synares, a responsible labor union?

Third question: Did you seek to meet authorities of the National University to access the events?

Fourth question: Is your charismatic man, for whom you work an Ivorian conscious of the situation which prevails?

And fifth question: Do you want to follow fashion by drawing students into disorderly behavior, characterized by childish claims of imitation?

My dear, continues Mr. Grekou, enjoy your cozy retirement by the sea in Jacqueville and leave a younger and more competent person than you to think about the problems of Ivory Coast whose African reality cannot be appeased by your in-laws' wrong breed.

The children of Ivory Coast can no longer be content with intellectual trash even if they are European and red. It is a matter of looking reality in the face and not dreaming, says Mr. Grekou.

You left the University, do not bother me with your advice of senility and stop using Synares for your personal interests to the detriment of the Ivorian, a man who wants to live in harmony and concord.

[Signed] Your friend Grekou, ENS

Authorities Release 100 Students

AB2502175490 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 25 Feb 90

[From the "African News"]

[Text] The authorities in the Ivory Coast have released about 100 students arrested after the sit-in protest at the Abidjan Cathedral on Friday [23 February]. They were released in the presence of the ministers of the interior and internal security, after appeals from Roman Catholic Church leaders. More students, arrested earlier in the week, are still being held.

Roman Catholic representatives and the country's Human Rights League have complained that the students were beaten by the police despite assurances they would not be arrested or ill-treated. Roman Catholic sources also said the church has called on the government to apologize to a priest who was beaten during the same incident.

President Orders Students' Release

AB2502223090 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 25 Feb 90

[Text] The president of the Republic, always concerned about the fate of Ivorian youths, has just ordered the release of a handful of youths who had been detained at the Abidjan central police station. These youths, including some students, were innocently associated, some few days ago, with acts of vandalism. [sentence as heard] By ordering the release of these youths, who have outlawed themselves by committing sinful and reprehensible acts, President Houphouet-Boigny has proved, once again if need be, his heartfelt generosity, his love for forgiveness and dialogue, in particular vis a vis Ivorian youths whom he has always regarded as the future of the country and those who will replace us tomorrow. Mr. Issouf Kone, the minister of internal security, and Mr. Leon Konan Koffi, the interior minister, who told these youths of their release, did not fail to recall the place which Ivorian youths occupy in the policy of President Houphouet-Boigny. First, let us listen to the minister of internal security:

[Begin Kone recording] Dear brothers, the president of the Republic has sent me and the interior minister, who is here with me, to come and announce to you your release. [applause and shouts of Houphouet, Houphouet] After verification, half of you are not known by the university. So, as far as we are concerned, these people are not university students. The president of the Republic has charged me to tell you that when one cuts oneself with a knife, one cleans it up and puts it back into its sheath. One does not throw away that knife. The head of state has always attached great importance to the training of youths. His constant concern has been your future and the future of Ivory Coast because he believes that only training can help you pull our country out of underdevelopment. You must, therefore, do everything to devote your time to your studies. Of course, the

electricity cuts have prevented you from preparing for your examinations. But the minister of national education assured you that the exams will be postponed. We really cannot understand the behavior of some of you who started burning vehicles and destroying some government property which is also your property. You are the people living on the university campus. Of course, not all of you are on scholarships. But I think that the maximum has been done to place you, as much as possible, in conditions that will facilitate your training. Respect order and the rest will come. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

The interior minister, who also brought President Houphouet-Boigny's message to these youths who went astray, talked at length about the constant concern of the head of state about the training of youths:

[Begin Koffi recording] The head of state has always said that youths are the future. But this future generation must be properly assisted because anything that will retard their education and their training by 1 year, 2 years, or 3 years will be to the advantage of those who want Africa to be retarded. Shall we now go and give lessons on good citizenship at the university or at the secondary schools? Shall we rather preach good moral education at the churches? But I think we must be conscious about this. And at your age, at the university—because we know that there are university students among you, although there are also some drug addicts and criminals who infiltrated your ranks—I think you must be conscious that your studies are your first priority. The rest will come and you will have them because you must have prepared your future, with total serenity and the required conscientiousness. But with these demonstrations, these stones which you throw even at people who are in no way connected with anything... [changes thought] You go to a ward like Yopougon which is a populous area where you find poor people like us, and you go and throw stones at them. Those who are bent on this way of doing things must abandon their idea of destruction and stopping poor people in the streets. You should devote your time to your studies. You should not allow yourselves to be manipulated. Because some other people will use you and tomorrow, you, the students, will be the losers. When these manipulators have obtained whatever they want, they will forget the students completely. [end recording]

Police Teargas Students; 2 Arrested

AB2602104090 Paris AFP in French 0950 GMT
26 Feb 90

[Text] Abidjan, 26 Feb (AFP)—Police today used teargas grenades to disperse small groups of protesting students at a students' hostel in Abidjan, AFP journalists on the spot observed.

Two students were arrested during the incident at the Yopougon students' hostel, northwest of Abidjan. Students refused to board the three university buses that usually take them to the main campus, at Cocody, in the northeast of the capital.

As at 0900 GMT, classes did not seem to have resumed on the campus, where many policemen were on patrol.

Last night, the authorities appealed to students to go back to school after they had boycotted classes since Tuesday, 20 February, and the national radio announced that the president had ordered the release of the students arrested during incidents over the weekend.

Houphouet-Boigny To Meet Employers, Unions 25 Feb

*AB2302155390 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] Before the meeting of the National Council, the head of state will chair a meeting on 25 February at 1700 [GMT] at the Presidential Palace with the Employers' Union of Ivory Coast [UPACI] and the General Union of Ivory Coast Workers [UGTCI]. The board chairmen, directors general, and directors of enterprises which are members of professional organizations affiliated to UPACI, members of trade organization bureaus, and members of the UGTCI Executive Committee are also invited to the meeting.

Meeting Postponed Until 27 Feb

*AB2502205490 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] In view of the particularly busy schedule of the head of state, the meeting, which was initially scheduled for this afternoon at 1700 at the Presidential Palace with the Union of Ivorian Employers and the General Union of Ivory Coast Workers [UGTCI], has been postponed to tomorrow, Monday, at 1030 at the Presidential Palace. Consequently, the National Council meeting, which was scheduled for tomorrow, will take place on Tuesday, 27 February at 1000 at the Presidential Palace.

The National Council of the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast—African Democratic Rally, it must be recalled, is an important structure of the party which can meet between congresses at the request of the party chairman. It is made up of the members of the Political Bureau, the Steering Committee, the secretaries general of the party, and the party inspectors.

But it must be explained that Tuesday's National Council has been enlarged to include members of the government, legislators, economic and social councilors, Supreme Court advisers, mayors, Army chiefs of staff and senior officers of the Army, prefects and subprefects, the Executive Committee of the UGTCI, the National Bureau of the Ivorian Women's Association, the Union of Higher Education Teachers, the Union of Secondary School Teachers, the Union of

Primary School Teachers, the National Bureau of the Ivorian Union of Students' Parent, the National Bureau of the Union of Private and Secular Schools, the National Bureau of the Union of Private and Secular School Teachers, the National Bureau of the Union of Hostel Supervisors and Education Advisers, the National Bureau of the Movement of Students and Pupils of Ivory Coast, the National Bureau of the Union of Ivorian Employers, the National Bureau of the Union of Transport Owners, the National Bureau of the Union of Senior Executives of the Health Sector, the National Bureau of the Farmers Union, and, finally, officials of Cooperative-Oriented Groups.

FPI Paper Banned; Militants Released

*AB2402160490 Paris AFP in French 1252 GMT
24 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, 24 Feb (AFP)—The distribution of L'EVENEMENT, the paper published by the Ivorian Popular Front (FPI, a unauthorized political faction) has been banned in Ivory Coast, the officials of the paper announced today. The minister of interior made the decision in a decree issued on 12 February, "for the sake of public order", the decree said. A copy of the decree was handed over to AFP by the FPI. An FPI official told AFP that his movement was going to request the lifting of the ban imposed by the Interior Ministry and lodge a complaint at the administrative chamber of the Supreme Court if the request was not granted. The first issue of L'EVENEMENT was published at the end of January.

On the other hand, the FPI announced in a communique that six of its militants, arrested last week in Gagnoa (250 km northwest of Abidjan) were released on 21 February but that four others are still being detained, with two of them arrested in Yamoussoukro (the political capital) and Sassandra (250 km west of Abidjan).

Liberia

Government Reacts to Student Protests in Abidjan

*AB2302214090 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[Text] In the wake of the student protest and demonstrations in the Republic of la Cote d'Ivoire [Ivory Coast], the Government of Liberia has directed its embassy near Abidjan to hold immediate consultation with the Liberian community in that country and advised Liberians not to participate in the demonstrations which are purely internal in nature. Ambassador Harold Tarr has been further instructed to commence plans for the evacuation of Liberian citizens, including students in Ivory Coast, in case the situation there does not improve. According to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, LINA, the government took the decision today in view of persistent reports of demonstrations by Ivorian students.

Brutality Against Students Reported

*AB2502140390 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1200 GMT 25 Feb 90*

[Text] The Human Rights League in la Cote d'Ivoire [Ivory Coast] has accused the authorities of brutality in trying to end a week of protests by students who want political reforms. In a statement, the league said the security forces had systematically beaten students at Abidjan University, ransacked their rooms, and forced them to strip naked. The statement also spoke about arbitrary arrests.

Senate President Pro Tempore Dies in Hospital

*AB2402194590 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1709 GMT 24 Feb 90*

[Text] The president pro tempore of the Liberian Senate and senator of Grand Gedeh County, Mr. John Rancy, is dead. Sources close to the family said he died yesterday at about 6 in the evening at the St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital in Monrovia.

Mali**New Bi-Monthly Newspaper L'AUORE Issued**

*AB2202222590 Paris AFP in French 1311 GMT
22 Feb 90*

[Text] Bamako, 22 Feb (AFP)—L'AUORE, an independent new bi-monthly, has just been issued in Mali. The paper, which is run by Abdoulaye Sadou, a young Malian journalist, will report on social events, everyday occurrences, and political, economic, and sports events in Mali and elsewhere. Presently, Mali has about 15 newspapers among which government papers (L'ESSOR, PODIUM, KIBARU, published in national languages), SUKABE MALI (the paper of the National Youth Union of Mali), CECIRI (the paper of the women's union) SUNJATA, and independent papers such as JAMANA, LES ECHOS, and CONCORDE.

Sierra Leone**ECOWAS Secretary General Threatens To Resign**

*AB2302203590 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 23 Feb 90*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Not all is hunky-dory in ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States]. It is very short of money, and the executive secretary, Dr. Abass Bundu, finds himself in a rather embarrassing position. He is a Sierra Leonean and Sierra Leone has not paid its dues to ECOWAS and Dr. Abass is threatening to resign over the issue. From Freetown Fode Fofana telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] Speaking in Parliament during a debate on the minibudget, Dr. Bundu said Sierra Leone had not paid up since 1984, while neighboring Guinea, where President Joseph Momoh is currently on a state visit, was fully paid up to last year. It is shameful for me to ride with an ECOWAS flag, while my country cannot foot her bills in the organization, he said.

Mr. Ben Kagbo, nominated MP and editor of the pro-government NEW CITIZEN newspaper, said it was shameful for the country not to be able to pay the salaries of their diplomatic mission abroad. He cited the examples of the High Commission in London, and the country's embassy in Bonn, where salaries have not been paid for the last five months and whose telephone lines have been cut off.

The minister of finance, Mr. Tony Taylor Morgan, appealed to the Ministries of Agriculture and Fisheries and of Mines to take drastic measures in order to generate government revenue. The fisheries industry alone could generate \$12 million annually in licenses, but for the past two years, government netted only \$2.5 million each year, the finance minister said. Mr. Tony Taylor Morgan called for the nationalization of the diamond and goldmining industries. He also suggested that smalltime mining operations be suspended for at least two years.

Today's debate coincided with the publication of an article in the weekend's SPARK newspaper alleging that \$414 million worth of Sierra Leone's diamonds and gold were sold in Antwerp and other centers last year alone. The paper alleges that the government figure in Freetown only registered a meager \$4.5 million. [end recording]

Government Expresses Joy Over Mandela Release

*AB1302121990 Freetown Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 12 Feb 90*

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs today issued a release expressing the joy and satisfaction over the South African Government's release of Mr. Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, after 27 years' imprisonment.

In welcoming the news of Mr. Mandela's release, the Government of Sierra Leone took cognisance of the fact that the elements of the apartheid system are still in place, especially the state of emergency and many political prisoners still languishing in jail. The government, therefore, views the release of Mr. Nelson Mandela as a first step in the way to finding a lasting political solution in South Africa, the release maintained.

The government also called on the international community to intensify its pressures on the regime in Pretoria to force it to meet the legitimate demands of the South African people, to guarantee freedom and equal opportunities for all irrespective of race.

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